

HO-41

## Commodore Joshua Barney House (Harry's Lott)

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 03-06-2018***

# Easement

41  
HO-21  
JOSHUA BARNEY  
Savage  
Private

listed NR  
Mid-1700's

The home of Commodore Joshua Barney was built by the Ridgelys of Howard County in the mid-1700's, on a tract of land called Harry's Lott.

Commodore Barney was the hero of two wars and retired to his home in Elkrige after his marriage to Harriet Coale in 1809. Captured three times in the Revolution, he was exchanged once and escaped twice in the War of 1812; he again volunteered and with his forces stood between the British and the nation's Capital at the Battle of Bladensburg. He retired again to Elkrige in 1815 but in 1818 decided to move to Kentucky. En route he became ill and died December 1, 1818. Commodore Joshua Barney was a charter member of the Society of the Cincinnati formed in 1783 and one of our nation's foremost naval heroes.

The original structure is a three bay wide, three bay deep, two and a half story brick dwelling with central chimney. Its tent roof featuring an intersecting east gable lying flush with the east wall and round arched dormer windows on the south and west roof elevations, is of particular note. Another notable architectural feature is the decorative brick work found in the first floor splayed brick flat arched lintels, the south wall laid in English garden wall brick bond and the decorative brick course separating the first and second floors of the south facade.

A west bay south entrance is outstanding for a rectangular transom enclosing a fan light flanked by narrow vertically aligned windows inset into the south wall covered with diamond patterned decorative wrought iron grates.

Later hipped roof additions were made in the 1940's on the west and north while serving as a boy's academy.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEH0-41  
District 6NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR N. SE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Harry's Lott

AND/OR COMMON

Commodore Joshua Barney House (Preferred)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Savage

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

024

COUNTY

Howard

CODE

027

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Bob Gillette Skaggs and Wava Gertrude Braum Skaggs

STREET &amp; NUMBER

7912 Savage - Guilford Road

CITY, TOWN

Savage

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

20863

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Howard County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

8360 Courthouse Drive

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland 21043

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

HO-41

**CONDITION****CHECK ONE****CHECK ONE**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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The Commodore Barney House is located approximately 1.1 miles northeast of the village of Savage in Howard County, Maryland, on the west side of the Savage-Guilford Road. The house has three sections: the original two-and-one-half story brick one, probably built before 1811; a two-story frame addition to the south built in 1941; and a 1946, one-story frame addition to the west.

The original part of the Barney House is almost square in plan and has three bays on each facade. The house has a hip roof and a central chimney. On the east and south is a small, arched dormer, each being a replacement for an earlier, flat skylight. Over the central bay on the north is a brick pediment with a lunette window. The entrance with a recessed six panel door is located in the south bay of the east facade. It has paneled reveals, a square transom and is flanked by sidelights separated from the doorway by about one foot of brick. The north facade is laid in common bond.

Windows throughout the house are 6/6.

There was a Victorian one-story porch across the full width of the east facade.

The interior of the Barney House was altered during the 1940's when it was used as a boys' school and about 1960 when it was made into apartments. On the first floor, there is a parlor and a large entrance hall which was originally divided so as to have the stair hall at the rear. The balustrade and other parts have been removed and the stain enclosed. The parlor retains much of its original appearance. On the south wall is a mantel with fluted pilasters. The room is surrounded by a chair rail, and under each window is a large, single panel.

The second floor has bedrooms in the northwest, northeast and southeast corners. The hall ends in a drying closet between the two east rooms. The beginning of the hall is marked by a paneled arch opening supported by tapered pilasters. The chair rail, present throughout the house, is deeper and more elaborate in the bedrooms than in the hall and forms the casing underneath the sills. In the northeast bedroom, the mantel has a reeded architrave.

There is a batten door to the attic which is divided into two bedrooms. Throughout the house are softwood floors. On the lower floors, the boards are 4 to 7 inches wide, but in the attic they are slightly wider.



PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Military)

The older section of the dwelling and the now remaining portion of the original land was directly associated with Commodore Joshua Barney, a native son of Maryland, born on July 6, 1759. For a period of over forty years, beginning with the Revolutionary War through 1815, he performed in a most creditable manner in naval activities.

In February 1811, Commodore Barney purchased the house and 300 acres to prevent creditors of Thomas Coale (then deceased) from claiming the property from Barney's second wife, Harriet Coale, her sister, Anna Maria, and a brother, Alfred.

In May 1812 Commodore Barney sold his property interests in Baltimore and moved to the "Farm at Elk Ridge" with intentions to make it his retirement home.

At an early age Joshua Barney developed an interest and skills in seaman-ship, along with a maturity that warranted his commission as a Lieutenant in the Continental Navy in June 1776, just prior to his 17th birthday.

Historical records from various national sources, historical writings and official comments give him considerable credit for service to his country from 1775 to 1784. In most cases this service was rendered with success and always with honor.

On November 20, 1783, Joshua Barney, along with many other officers of the Continental Forces, became a charter member of the Society of the Cincinnati (State of Maryland) at Annapolis. Barney continued to serve in the Naval Forces until mid-1784.

From 1784 to 1794 he went about the normal pursuits of livelihood of most veterans of the Revolutionary War. Most of these dealt in some manner with the sea.

In 1794, along with a few others, he was tendered an appointment as Captain in the American Navy - an appointment he never accepted for personal reasons. Instead, that same year he sailed with James Monroe, the United States Minister to France.

In France in 1794, at the recommendation of Mr. Monroe, he was commissioned a Captain in the French Naval Forces and later raised to Commodore (Flag Rank) in which grade he served approximately four years. He left the

See Continuation Sheet #1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Commodore Joshua Barney House  
Howard County,

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Military, continued)

service of France in 1802, returning to the United States.

Between 1802 and 1812 Barney appears to have engaged in generally non-naval pursuits. During this period he suffered the death of his first wife, Anne Bedford Barney, on July 25, 1808.

In 1812 he volunteered his services to his country, but apparently the offer was not accepted. He then requested and received the first commission for "private armed vessels" which he used to the fullest extent against the British. This method of protection for the country, later considered improper by the Congress, was terminated after his first cruise. He again retired to the farm.

With his value and experience sorely needed and with the deteriorating efforts of the Armed Forces seriously endangering the safety of our Capitol, he was asked in July 1814 to form and command a flotilla in defense of Washington. He was commissioned with the equivalent rank of a Captain in the Navy.

His account of the defense of the Capitol on August 24th at the "Battle of Bladensburg" is described in his written report to the Secretary of the Navy on August 29, 1814. He wrote this report while recuperating from a wound received in the battle, from the "Farm at Elk Ridge" (now known as the Commodore Barney House).

In January 1815 Commodore Barney was nearly 56 years old with almost 40 years of naval experience. Yet he can be seen writing to the Acting Secretary of the Navy, Benjamin Homans, again offering his services. It appears that only a man of the breed of Joshua Barney knew when to quit - when the job was done and he had no more life to give.

He did perform other minor services after the war of 1812 ended, being chosen for these by the President possibly as a way of honoring him. However, due to failing health, he was forced to retire permanently to his farm.

The wound suffered at Bladensburg, coupled with ill health, finally took his life on December 1, 1818, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, while on his way to Kentucky. He is buried in the Alleghenny Cemetery near the city of Pittsburgh.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET # 2

## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	341740	4335340
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## FORM PREPARED BY

njm

NAME / TITLE

Bob Gillette Skaggs

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Spring 1977

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

(301) 725-9282

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Savage,

Maryland 20863

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐STATE ☒LOCAL ☐

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John N. Pearce

DATE

12/14/77

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Commodore Joshua Barney House  
Howard County,

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

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**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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to 635, copy source: Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard,  
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Ships History Section - copy source: Naval Historical Center,  
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Society staff in Washington, D.C. provided the copy of the cover  
page and the page concerning Commodore Barney)

Land Records of Howard and Anne Arundel Counties.

HO-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Private

**Description:**

The Commodore Joshua Barney House is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by three-bay structure of five-to-one common bond brick (painted white) with a rubble stone foundation and a hip roof with asphalt shingles. There is a two-story, two-bay by two-bay stuccoed wing on the south that has a hip roof with asphalt shingles, and a modern two-story and raised basement addition on the west that also has stucco and a hip roof. Only the main block is of historic significance. The east elevation of the main block has a six-panel door in the south bay with a transom that has a simple sunburst pattern to the muntins. Flanking either side of the door is a narrow two-light sash with narrow brick piers between the sash and the door. The two bays to the north each have a six-over-six double-hung sash. There is a stringcourse of only one course of brick. The roof has a round-arched dormer in the center, with a six-light casement, and a brick chimney at the peak of the hip. The north elevation has a typical six-over-six window in the end bay of both the first and second stories. The center bay of both stories has a false window covered with closed blinds. There is a gabled wall dormer of brick in the center bay of the roof, with a lunette. The first story has a side-passage, single-pile plan. A new wall with a wide arched opening divides the passage in two. At the west end is a dog-leg stair of three runs that ascends to the west on the south wall, to a landing, then turns to the north, to another landing, and turns to the east. The newels, balusters, handrail, and treads are all new. The north room has a fireplace with a wood mantel that has engaged oval columns that are fluted, and has paneled imposts and frieze. The second story has a stair passage along the southwest end, with a narrow passage in the center, running to the east that has an arched opening with paneled pilasters.

**Significance:**

The Commodore Joshua Barney House is located on a portion of what had been the 300-acre dwelling plantation of Thomas Coale. Barney was born on a farm near Baltimore in 1759 and joined the Continental Navy early in the Revolution. Prize money from taking enemy ships had left Barney well off, and after the Revolution he went into business in Baltimore with his brother-in-law, Captain John Stricker. In the 1790s Barney served in the French Navy, and in 1802 Barney resigned his commission and returned to Baltimore to resume his career as a merchant. Barney's wife, Ann, died in 1808 and Joshua married Harriot Coale Tunis the following year. With his failure to get elected and to get a command from the U. S. Navy, Barney grew frustrated. When the Coale plantation came up for sale in 1811, Barney sold his house in Baltimore and bought the plantation. During the War of 1812 Barney became a privateer for some Baltimore businessmen. His exploits in 1812 were both successful and very profitable for him, and by 1813 he had retired from privateering. Realizing that Baltimore would be a major target of the British, Barney created a plan to defend the Chesapeake and was named Acting Commandant to create the needed flotilla and implement the plan. After he was ordered to scuttle his flotilla, Barney led his men in the Battle of Bladensburg in defense of the capitol. Barney was wounded in the battle, taking a bullet in his thigh that could not be removed. After the war, Barney was appointed Naval Port Officer of Baltimore but soon tired of that job and

decided to move to Kentucky, where he owned over 50,000 acres. The Barneys sold the plantation in 1818, but on the trip west Barney became ill, apparently a lingering result of the wound he had received at Bladensburg. He died in Pittsburg and was buried there. The plantation was purchased by Henry Messonier, a Baltimore merchant, for \$14,000. The deed noted that it was "... the same tract of land which was lately built upon improved and occupied by the said Joshua Barney and Harriot his wife as their residence." Though not large, the house is made striking by being designed as a cube, with a hip roof. The house is given a second front on the north, with a gabled wall dormer containing a lunette and a carefully composed symmetrical façade with false windows in the center of both stories.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-41

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Commodore Joshua Barney House  
other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street and number 7912 Savage-Guilford Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication  
city, town Savage X vicinity  
county Howard

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Susan L. Betts  
street and number P. O. Box 429 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city, town Savage state MD zip code 20763

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 5000 folio 234  
city, town Ellicott City tax map 42 tax parcel 429 tax ID number \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- \_\_\_\_ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
\_\_\_\_ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
\_\_\_\_ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
\_\_\_\_ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
\_\_\_\_ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
\_\_\_\_ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
____ district	____ public	____ agriculture	____ landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	____ commerce/trade	____ recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
____ structure	____ both	____ defense	____ religion	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
____ site		____ domestic	____ social	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
____ object		____ education	____ transportation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		____ funerary	____ work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total
		____ government	____ unknown		
		____ health care	<u>X</u> vacant/not in use		
		____ industry	____ other:		

Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory  
1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. HO-41

### Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### Summary:

The Commodore Joshua Barney House is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by three-bay structure of five-to-one common bond brick (painted white) with a rubble stone foundation and a hip roof with asphalt shingles. There is a two-story, two-bay by two-bay stuccoed wing on the south that has a hip roof with asphalt shingles, and a modern two-story and raised basement addition on the west that also has stucco and a hip roof. Only the main block is of historic significance. The east elevation of the main block has a six-panel door in the south bay with a transom that has a simple sunburst pattern to the muntins. Flanking either side of the door is a narrow two-light sash with narrow brick piers between the sash and the door. The two bays to the north each have a six-over-six double-hung sash. There is a stringcourse of only one course of brick. The roof has a round-arched dormer in the center, with a six-light casement, and a brick chimney at the peak of the hip. The north elevation has a typical six-over-six window in the end bay of both the first and second stories. The center bay of both stories has a false window covered with closed blinds. There is a gabled wall dormer of brick in the center bay of the roof, with a lunette. The first story has a side-passage, single-pile plan. A new wall with a wide arched opening divides the passage in two. At the west end is a dog-leg stair of three runs that ascends to the west on the south wall, to a landing, then turns to the north, to another landing, and turns to the east. The newels, balusters, handrail, and treads are all new. The north room has a fireplace with a wood mantel that has engaged oval columns that are fluted, and has paneled impost and frieze. The second story has a stair passage along the southwest end, with a narrow passage in the center, running to the east that has an arched opening with paneled pilasters.

### Description:

#### Exterior

The Commodore Joshua Barney House is located at 7912 Savage-Guilford Road, at the west end of the road where it is cut off by Route 95. It is set on a hilly, wooded lot, back from the street, with Route 95 on the north. The house faces uphill, to the east, with the ground sloping sharply down to the west and north. At the north end of the property is a high embankment on which runs Route 95.

The house is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by three-bay structure of five-to-one common bond brick (painted white) with a rubble stone foundation and a hip roof with asphalt shingles. There is a two-story, two-bay by two-bay stuccoed wing on the south that has a hip roof with asphalt shingles, and a modern two-story and raised basement addition on the west that also has stucco and a hip roof. Only the main block is of historic significance, though it is possible that part of an original wing is buried within the south wing.



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-41

Name

### Continuation Sheet

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The east elevation of the main block has a six-panel door in the south bay of the first story, with a transom that has a simple sunburst pattern to the muntins. The door jambs and soffit are paneled, with two on the soffit and one on each jamb above the transom bar. The frame has a large quirked bead on the inner edge. Flanking either side of the door is a narrow two-light sash with wood lug sills and narrow brick piers between the sash and the door. The two bays to the north each have a six-over-six double-hung sash with a wood sill, wood blinds, and a splayed brick jack arch. The blinds are mortised and tenoned and pegged, are hung on cross-garnet hinges that have rounded tips, and have shutter dogs with a rat tail at the bottom and a lima bean cusp at the top. The second story has three sash identical to the first story, with each aligning with the first story bays. There is a stringcourse of only one course of brick between the two floors. There is a wood box cornice with a bed mould that appears to have a cavetto and bead moulding. The roof has a round-arched dormer in the center, with a six-light casement, and a brick chimney at the peak of the hip. There is a smaller brick chimney that passes through the roof of the wing, but it is within at least part of the footprint of the main block.

The north elevation is three bays, with three new two-light sash in the foundation. They have new wood sills and frames, with splayed brick jack arches in the center and west bays. The east bay has been rebuilt and appears to have a concrete lintel. There is a typical six-over-six window in the end bay of both the first and second stories. The center bay of both stories has a false window covered with closed blinds. There is a gabled wall dormer of brick in the center bay of the roof, with a lunette.

The west elevation foundation has a window opening with an air conditioner in it in the north bay, and it has no jack arch. In the center bay is a new two-light sash with no jack arch. Both openings have a wood slip sill, large quirked beads on the edge of the frames, and short bricks at the edge of the openings that suggest the openings were cut into the wall at a later date. The south bay is covered by the west addition. There are two typical six-over-six sash on the first story, with no blinds, and the south bay is covered by the rear addition. The window frames have patches where the shutter hinges were. The second story has three typical six-over-six sash, with no blinds, and they align with the openings on the east elevation. The rear addition abuts the south jamb of the south bay window.

The south elevation is almost completely covered by the addition, with a small section to the east of the addition that has been stuccoed and has no openings. The roof has a round-arched dormer in the center, with a six-light sash.

### Interior

#### First Story

The first story has a side-passage, single-pile plan with a modern addition on the south and west. The passage has new pine flooring that runs north-south, and most of the baseboard is new; the top moulding, a quirked Greek ogee, all appears to be new, but some of the plain bottom base appears to be

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-41

Name  
**Continuation Sheet**

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old. The chair rail all appears to be new, but matches the railing on the wall of the stairway, which is old. The architrave has a quirked Greek ogee-and-bead backband, a broken field with a small fillet at the break, and a raised bead on the inner edge. There is a new ceiling medallion and new crown moulding. The front (east) door has six panels with sunken fields and ogee and fillet panel moulds. It is hung on butt hinges with ball finials and has a new lock. The transom is mortised and tenoned and pinned at the corners. The ovolo muntins are not set on the outside, suggesting the transom has been reversed. The sidelights are vinyl sash above single panels that match the door. A new wall with a wide arched opening divides the passage in two.

The south wall has two doorways. The east one is original and has a six-panel door that matches the front door and also has butt hinges with ball finials. It has a brass rim lock and knob, but earlier had a mortise lock. The west doorway has matching, reproduced architrave and has no door; it appears to have been cut through later. The north wall also has two doorways. The eastern one has one panel on each jamb and the soffit, and they match the front door. The door matches the front door and is mortised and tenoned and pinned. It is hung on cast iron butt hinges with five knuckles and pins, has six screws for each leaf of the hinge, and has heavy paint build-up. There is a reproduction plate latch that hides evidence of the original lock, and the keyhole is filled, but the door never had a mortise lock. The western door is identical to the eastern one. The west wall has a doorway to the western addition with a modern door. The architrave on the sides of the opening is old, while that on the top of the opening is a reproduction.

At the west end is a dog-leg stair of three runs that ascends to the west on the south wall, to a landing, then turns to the north, to another landing, and turns to the east. The newels, balusters, handrail, and treads are all new. It has an open stringer with an applied bead and fillet on it, as well as a bead on the bottom edge. The railing on the wall is half of a T-profile handrail that is ovoid on the top, and the rail is ramped. The top newel post has an acorn pendant drop. Beneath the stairs is a closet with a four-panel door that has panels that match the front door, and it is mortised and tenoned and pinned. It is hung on long cast iron butt hinges that have three knuckles and some old paint, but have all new screws. The closet floor is new and is set one step down from the passage floor.

The north room has original flooring of random-width tongue-and-grooved pine boards that run north-south and vary between 3 1/4 and 6 inches. There is some face-nailing but they are mostly blind-nailed. There are carpet tack holes running both north-south and east-west, with two sets of holes running north-south, with different spacing, that could indicate 18-inch- and 24-inch-wide strips. The baseboard has a quirked Greek ogee and bead on top. The architrave matches the passage. The chair rail has a cavetto under the shelf, a rabbet in the center between fillets, a quirked bead below the bottom fillet, and another quirked bead at the bottom corner. The window sash are mortised and tenoned and pinned at the corners, and one muntin is pinned to the rails. The deep muntins have ovolo moulds and the lights are

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12 by 18 inches. The sash are hung on weights and have parting beads. The weights are said to be square in plan. The openings are recessed, with one panel below the sill that has a sunken field and a bead mould. There are valences added that contain applied foliate decoration. There is a new wood crown moulding and the ceiling may have been dropped.

The south elevation of the north room has a fireplace with a brick hearth and rebuilt brick firebox of "Maryland" bricks painted black. There is also a new brick surround. The wood mantel has engaged oval columns that are fluted. The paneled impost and frieze are sunken and flat, with a bead mould. The frieze has a pressed wood urn applied to it, and this appears to be a very recent addition. The bed mould has a broad, shallow cavetto with a bevel mould below it. The mantel shelf has an ogee on the edge, and the shelf is bowed in the center, in plan.

### Second Story

The second story has a stair passage along the southwest end, with a narrow passage in the center, running to the east. There are chambers in the northwest, northeast, and southeast corners. The second-story passage open-well stairway has all new railings, balusters, and newels (from the top of the tread, up). There are mostly original treads up to the attic, with square cuts in them for what must have been original rectangular-in-plan balusters. There is a railing on all of the walls of the passage that is identical to that on the first story. The stairs are open to the attic and ascend to the north on the west wall, to a landing, and then turn to the east. The flooring is tongue-and-grooved pine that runs east-west, varies between 4 and 6 inches, and is face-nailed. There is a window on the west that is identical to those in the first story north room. The south wall has a doorway to the wing, with no architrave, but the railing here is cut short and coped, rather than just hacked off flush. On the east elevation is a new door and architrave to a new bathroom. There is a passage running off to the east at the top of the stairs, with an arched opening that has paneled pilasters that are sunken and flat and have a bead mould. The soffit of the arch is paneled to match, and there are capitals that have a quirked Greek ovolo and bead at the top, with a large cavetto and fillet below. In the middle of this passage is an added doorway with a fanlight. At the east end of the passage is a closet with a typical six-panel door for this house. It is hung on 7-inch-long cast iron butt hinges with three knuckles and five screws on each leaf. They are heavily painted and have no apparent markings. The door has an old brass mortise lock with newer brass knobs, and there is no evidence of an earlier lock here, suggesting that it could be original.

The northwest chamber door has six panels with sunken fields and ogee and fillet panel moulds. It is hung on cast iron butt hinges with five knuckles and six screws to each leaf. There is a brass rim lock, and it is not clear whether the door had a mortise lock or whether the edge of the door was cut for a rim lock plate that wrapped over the edge of the door. The doorway jambs and soffit have one panel each and match the door. The baseboard and architrave match the first-story north room. The flooring

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matches the second-story passage. There is chair rail with an ogee and what appears to be a small ovolo and fillet below the shelf (it is heavily painted), with an ogee and cavetto at the bottom. The windows match the first-story north room.

The northeast chamber flooring, baseboard, chair rail, architrave, windows and door match that in the northwest chamber. There is a fireplace on the south elevation with a brick hearth, a rebuilt firebox that is painted black, and a brick surround that is mostly hidden by a cast iron facing. There is a wood mantel with a reeded surround that has plain corner blocks on the inner edge. It has recessed paneled pilasters and imposts that are sunken and flat, with a bead mould. There is a plain raised frieze, a bed mould with a shallow cavetto, and a large quirked bead on the edge of the shelf. The shelf is cut back on the ends.

The southeast chamber door matches those of the northwest and northeast chambers, but the soffit and jambs are not paneled. The flooring, baseboard, chair rail, architrave, and window match that in the northwest and northeast chambers. This room is now a modern bathroom, with a doorway on the west to the bathroom off of the passage. The door and trim here are new, as presumably is the wall.

### Attic

The attic is finished as two rooms, one of which is a modern bathroom. The door and architrave to the bathroom are all new, but the hinges are 7-inch cast iron butts. There is a dormer on the south that has a new sash. The rafters are barely accessible and visible, but, as best as can be determined, are sash-sawn, are 2 ¾ by 5 inches, and are spaced 21 inches on centers.

The door to the north room has four panels that match the second story doors, and it is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The architrave has an ogee-and-bead backband and a quirked bead on the inner edge. The door is hung on 7-inch cast iron butt hinges that have been stripped of paint and have no markings. The north attic room has a lunette on the north elevation that is mortised and tenoned and pinned and has muntins that match the other windows. The architrave has a cavetto backband. There is a dormer on the east that is mortised and tenoned and pinned, and the muntins are wider and shallower, with ovolo profiles.

### Basement

The basement under the passage has a concrete floor and parged walls. The joists run north-south, are sash-sawn, and some are adzed on one side. They measure 2 ¾ to 3 inches by 11 ½ to 12 inches, and are spaced 17 ½ to 19 ½ inches on centers. They have no cross-bracing. The flooring above is narrow, runs east-west, and is not gauged and undercut. There is a stair header beneath the existing first-story stair that is mortised and tenoned and pegged together, with later infill closing off the stairwell to the basement. The north room is finished, with a drop ceiling.

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Also on the property is a modern gazebo about 100 feet north of the house, a modern wood shed about 40 feet northeast of the house, and a modern wood shed about 100 feet south of the house. There is modern landscaping to the east of the house and parking lot, consisting of a stone waterfall and pond, with stone steps alongside it. The ground is terraced to the north and northwest of the house, with rubble stone walls that have partially collapsed.



## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

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Specific dates	N/A	Architect/Builder	N/A
Construction dates	c. 1811-1817		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### Summary:

The Commodore Joshua Barney House is located on a portion of what had been the 300-acre dwelling plantation of Thomas Coale. Barney was born on a farm near Baltimore in 1759 and joined the Continental Navy early in the Revolution. Prize money from taking enemy ships had left Barney well off, and after the Revolution he went into business in Baltimore with his brother-in-law, Captain John Stricker. In the 1790s Barney served in the French Navy, and in 1802 Barney resigned his commission and returned to Baltimore to resume his career as a merchant. Barney's wife, Ann, died in 1808 and Joshua married Harriot Coale Tunis the following year. With his failure to get elected and to get a command from the U. S. Navy, Barney grew frustrated. When the Coale plantation came up for sale in 1811, Barney sold his house in Baltimore and bought the plantation. During the War of 1812 Barney became a privateer for some Baltimore businessmen. His exploits in 1812 were both successful and very profitable for him, and by 1813 he had retired from privateering. Realizing that Baltimore would be a major target of the British, Barney created a plan to defend the Chesapeake and was named Acting Commandant to create the needed flotilla and implement the plan. After he was ordered to scuttle his flotilla, Barney led his men in the Battle of Bladensburg in defense of the capitol. Barney was wounded in the battle, taking a bullet in his thigh that could not be removed. After the war, Barney was appointed Naval Port Officer of Baltimore but soon tired of that job and decided to move to Kentucky, where he owned over 50,000 acres. The Barneys sold the plantation in 1818, but on the trip west Barney became ill, apparently a lingering result of the wound he had received at Bladensburg. He died in Pittsburg and was buried there. The plantation was purchased by Henry Messonier, a Baltimore merchant, for \$14,000. The deed noted that it was "... the same tract of land which was lately built upon improved and occupied by the said Joshua Barney and Harriot his wife as their residence." Though not large, the house is made striking by being designed as a cube, with a hip roof. The house is given a second front on the north, with a gabled wall dormer containing a lunette and a carefully composed symmetrical façade with false windows in the center of both stories.

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### Significance:

The Commodore Joshua Barney House is located on a portion of what had been the 300-acre dwelling plantation of Thomas Coale. Coale died in 1796, leaving a widow, Sarah, and four children, plus numerous debts. In order to liquidate the debts, he ordered in his will that his executors sell "... the land I first purchased of Charles Greenbury Ridgely containing twenty two acres and a half on which my dwelling house stands . . . ." He further ordered "... the money to be appropriated or as much of it as is necessary in erecting necessary buildings on a more convenient part of my dwelling plantation." By 1798 Sarah had apparently moved off the property and leased a "1 story dwelling house 18 by 16 wood" to Griffith White and a "1 story dwelling house 16 by 16 wood" and "1 do 14 by 16" to Jeremiah Berry. Clearly, there was no brick house on the property at that time. Thomas Coale's debts apparently went unpaid and Sarah Coale was sued. The 300-acre plantation was finally sold, for \$7.50 per acre, in 1811 in order to settle Coale's estate. Unfortunately, the plantation was described in only vague and laudatory terms, giving little indication of the improvements to the property. However, it seems unlikely that Sarah would have made any substantial improvements to the plantation when she was no longer living there and must have known she would eventually lose control of the property.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Coale's daughter, Harriot [sic], married first Charles Tunis, a Baltimore dry goods merchant, in 1802. Charles died at an unknown date and Harriot remarried, in 1809, to Joshua Barney, who would purchase her father's plantation. Barney was born on a farm near Baltimore in 1759 and went to sea at the age of 12, in 1772, with his brother-in-law, Captain Thomas Drysdale. Drysdale died on a trip to Gibraltar and Barney took command of the vessel, at the age of 15. When he returned from this trip he joined the Continental Navy and fought in the Battle of the Delaware (River) and several other engagements, eventually being taken prisoner by the British on several occasions. After one release Barney married first Ann Bedford (b. 1759), daughter of master builder Gunning Bedford of Philadelphia, reportedly in 1780. At this time Barney may have been serving as a licensed privateer for the Pennsylvania State Navy. Barney was given command of the ship *Hyder Ally*, with which he captured the HMS *General Monk*; that ship was commissioned as the *General Washington*, and Barney was given command of it. Prize money from taking enemy ships had left Barney well off, and after the Revolution he went into business in Baltimore with his brother-in-law, Captain (later Brigadier General) John Stricker. Stricker would command the militia troops in defense of Baltimore at the Battle of North Point in the War of 1812. In addition to wine, coffee, molasses and sugar, Barney also traded in slaves, a business that would be effectively used against him when he chose to enter politics. In the 1790s Barney served in the French Navy, being commissioned as "Capitaine de Vaissenu de Premier,"

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<sup>1</sup> Hannah West v. Sarah Coale, et al, State Court of Chancery #5552, Maryland State Archives, S 512-5668. Federal Direct Tax, 1798, Patuxent & Huntington Hundreds, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Maryland State Archives. *Baltimore American* 14 February 1811, p. 3. *Baltimore American* 25 March 1811, p. 3.

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equivalent to Commodore in the U. S. Navy. His position became awkward when the U. S. became entangled in the Quasi-War with France in the late 1790s, and in 1802 Barney resigned his commission and returned to Baltimore to resume his career as a merchant.<sup>2</sup>

Ann Bedford Barney died in 1808 and Joshua married Harriot Coale Tunis the following year. With his failure to get elected and to get a command from the U. S. Navy, Barney grew frustrated. When the Coale plantation came up for sale in 1811, Barney sold his house in Baltimore and bought the plantation. The following year he put it in trust for the use of Harriot. During the War of 1812 Barney became a privateer for some Baltimore businessmen, taking command of the schooner *Rossie*. His exploits in 1812 were both successful and very profitable for him, and by 1813 he had retired from privateering. Realizing that Baltimore, the third largest port in the U. S., would be a major target of the British, Barney created a plan to defend the Chesapeake that he submitted to the Secretary of the Navy. The plan was accepted and Barney was named Acting Commandant to create the needed flotilla and implement the plan. In the spring and summer of 1814 Barney and his flotilla continually engaged and harassed the British. After he was ordered to scuttle his flotilla, rather than allow the boats to be captured by the British, Barney led his men in the Battle of Bladensburg in defense of the capitol. The battle was an embarrassing rout for American forces, despite the inspired and valiant efforts of Barney and his men. Had the militia not run, the Americans might have bested the British and kept them from continuing on to burn Washington. Barney was wounded in the battle, taking a bullet in his thigh that could not be removed. He was captured by the British, given medical treatment, and then paroled and allowed to return to his farm to recuperate.<sup>3</sup>

After the war, Barney was appointed Naval Port Officer of Baltimore by President James Monroe in 1817, but soon tired of that job and decided to move to Kentucky, where he owned over 50,000 acres near present-day Fort Knox. In addition to land, Barney apparently invested in slaves. In March, 1818 he advertised that Harry Harris (or Harrison), whom he had purchased recently from the estate of Isaac

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<sup>2</sup> *Federal Gazette* (Baltimore) 19 June 1802, p. 3. *Federal Gazette* (Baltimore) 21 October 1802, p. 3. Blaine Taylor, "Maryland's Gutsy Seadog: Joshua Barney," *Sea Classics* 45, no. 2 (February 2012): 34-41, 64-65. This article seems to be heavily based on Louis Arthur Norton, *Joshua Barney: Hero of the Revolution* (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2000). The other biography of Barney is Hulbert Footner, *Sailor of Fortune: The Life and Adventures of Commodore Joshua Barney, USN* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1940). William Frederick Adams, *Commodore Joshua Barney* (Springfield, MA, 1912), p. 77. Eleanor Bedford Wilkins Cooch, *The Ancestors of Eleanor Bedford Wilkins Cooch and Edward Webb Cooch* (Wilmington, DE, 1962), p. 32. John L. Sanford, "The Battle of North Point," *Maryland Historical Magazine* 24, no. 4 (December 1929), p. 363. National Cyclopaedia of American Biography, vol. 4 (New York: James T. White & Co., 1893), p. 167.

<sup>3</sup> Taylor, "Maryland's Gutsy Seadog: Joshua Barney," pp. 34-41, 64-65. Blaine Taylor, "Joshua Barney: Maryland's Famous Sea Dog and the War of 1812," *Sea Classics* 45, no. 3 (March 2012): 34-41, 44-45.



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Freeman near Chestertown, had run off. Harris was a shoemaker by trade and also had experience working on bay craft. He may have been living and working in Baltimore, rather than on the plantation, since his wife was also in Baltimore, though that is not certain. The Barneys sold the plantation in 1818, but on the trip west Barney became ill, apparently a lingering result of the wound he had received at Bladensburg. He died in Pittsburg on December 1<sup>st</sup> and was buried there.<sup>4</sup>

The plantation was purchased by Henry Messonier, a Baltimore merchant, for \$14,000. The deed noted that it was “. . . the same tract of land which was lately built upon improved and occupied by the said Joshua Barney and Harriot his wife as their residence.” This is a strong indication, along with the 1798 tax information, that Joshua Barney built the house on the property. An examination of the building certainly places its construction in the last decade of the eighteenth century to the first quarter of the nineteenth century, also tending to reinforce Barney’s responsibility for the building. Though not large, the house is made striking by being designed as a cube, with a hip roof. Round-arched dormers were unusual and more refined than the more common gabled dormer. The placement of the chimney in the center of this hip is unusual, but serves to reinforce, rather than to disrupt, the cubical appearance of the building. The house is given a second front on the north, with a gabled wall dormer containing a lunette and a carefully composed symmetrical façade with false windows in the center of both stories. This was necessary on the second story because of a center partition wall that created two sleeping chambers there, and this necessity perhaps drove its use on the first story, where there was a single large parlor. The treatment of this façade suggests that the space to the north of the house had an important social purpose, most likely the location of ornamental gardens. Certainly, the slope to the west was not conducive to gardens. While the parlor could have had a bank of three windows on the south wall, it certainly was not hindered with only two, since there were also two windows on the front (east) and rear (west) walls in this room, providing a great deal of light and air for the room. In addition, the elimination of the center window opened up the center of this wall for furnishings, on axis across from the fireplace. The mantel on this fireplace is consistent with the period c. 1790-1820, with fluted columns that have an oval profile and a stack of small mouldings built up for the architrave and bed mould. In addition to its large size, the parlor is given decorative emphasis with the use of recessed panels below the windows, with the architrave carried down to the baseboards, and with chair rail set at window sill level.

The plan of the house, a side-passage, was becoming popular in the late eighteenth century. Here, the house is only a single pile, leaving one large room that must have doubled as a dining room. The passage was given greater presence both by its great width, and by dividing the stairway, at the rear, from the entrance hall. This partition probably had an archway originally, but unfortunately was

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<sup>4</sup> Taylor, “Joshua Barney: Maryland’s Famous Sea Dog and the War of 1812,” pp. 34-41, 44-45. *Baltimore Patriot*, 25 March 1818, p. 3. *Baltimore Patriot*, 11 September 1818, p. 1.

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removed and later rebuilt. The doorway on the south side of this entrance hall is original, and with no other location in the house with provisions for cooking, suggests that there was a kitchen wing attached here from the beginning, or a freestanding kitchen near this door; detached kitchens were disappearing in the late eighteenth century, though such an arrangement was still used at Mount Hebron (HO-49), built c. 1808-1820. The door location would have been convenient for a house servant to also tend to visitors at the front door. The transom over the front door is also consistent with the period c. 1790-1820. The use of sidelights was virtually unknown in Howard County until the 1830s, and was not common until the 1850s, if it could be said to have ever become common. The second story has a narrow passage running from the stair passage on the west toward the east, in order to give access to the chamber in the northeast corner. The passage is given emphasis with an arched opening supported by paneled pilasters. Its use here suggests that a similar, though probably more elaborate, treatment would have been used in the first-story passage. Two of the bedrooms were unheated, suggesting that the house was intended as a summer home. The description of the basement given in Holland's *Old Homes and Families* is almost certainly a romantic fiction. Since the house was built in the early nineteenth century, there was no threat of Indian attack, and the basement was likely only used for food storage. Smoking meat down here was also very unlikely. Possible entrance from the frame addition could not be explored, but there was originally a stairway beneath the main stairs that gave access to the basement. There was insufficient time to explore the north cellar room and any possible exterior access, but given the topography, one would expect a doorway on the west side of the basement, where the ground slopes away.<sup>5</sup>

Henry Messonier must not have had any interest in retaining the property, since he sold it four months later to Dr. Pierre Chatard, of Baltimore. It is also possible that Messonier was acting as an agent for Dr. Chatard. Chatard was born in San Domingo in 1767, was educated in France, and came to Baltimore in 1800. He was undoubtedly purchasing the property for a summer home. It is probably not coincidental that Frenchmen were involved in the Barney property, since Barney had such close ties to France and hated the English. At this point, the title to Barney's plantation becomes clouded; Dr. Chatard either sold it or lost control of it in some other manner, and the Savage Manufacturing Company acquired the whole tract. They were apparently not interested in the house and other buildings and thus sold them to a Benjamin Redman, but he later surrendered them back to the company. No deeds could be found until the Savage Co. sold the plantation, now reduced to 218 acres, to Nathaniel Williams of Baltimore in 1832. Williams sold the Barney plantation to Dr. John Cronmiller, also of Baltimore, in 1843. Cronmiller moved to Howard County and apparently lived on the farm, which he reportedly named "Lindan", for a long time; he died in 1875. The doctor's son, William, was listed as a farmer in 1870 and was living with his father. He apparently had charge of the farm, and continued to run it long after

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<sup>5</sup> Holland, *Old Homes and Families*, p. 428.

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his father's death. On the 1877 *Atlas of Howard County* he is shown as in possession of the property, now slightly reduced to 214 acres. The Cronmiller family did not settle the estate until 1900, when the property was divided into three parcels: of 71, 60, and 76 acres.<sup>6</sup>

The Barney house and 76 acres was sold to Dr. Thomas Linthicum of Savage. He only retained it a short time, selling it to his friend, William Carr, in 1909. Carr is listed as a farmer in the 1920 census. An undated photograph from the Carr period of ownership shows a 1 ½-story, on bay by two-bay frame wing on the south side of the house that was likely the original kitchen wing of the house. It had an interior brick chimney on the south gable end. A later photograph shows this wing raised to a full two stories, with the brick chimney removed and the gable end openings completely rearranged from two bays to one. This wing was originally believed to have been added in 1941, though it is more likely that it was simply altered significantly at that time. After Carr's death in 1939 the 26-acre property was acquired by Ralph and Marguerite Cahall. They opened up the Elmwood Manor School in 1943 in the historic house. The country school was geared to children from three to twelve years old, especially those whose parents were away during the war or were in some kind of Foreign Service afterward. Marguerite Cahall ran the school while he husband worked for a newspaper in Washington, D. C. An addition on the west side of the house was reportedly made by the Cahalls in 1946. The earliest photograph of the property shows a rear porch here, as well as a three-bay porch across the front, which must have been added in the mid- to late-nineteenth century. This porch has since been removed.<sup>7</sup>

The school closed in the early 1960s and several apartments were created, necessitating the removal of the open staircase and a closed one installed in its stead. When the house was threatened by the construction of Route I-95, the Cahall's enlisted the Maryland Historical Trust to re-route the highway around the house. In the process, some land was lost to the road. In 1975 the Barney house was acquired by Bob and Wava Skaggs, who are most responsible for its continued preservation, since they placed the house on the National Register of Historic Places and donated an easement to the Maryland Historical Trust. Two lots were cut off for development, with almost 7 acres protected. During their ownership, in 1992, the roof caught on fire and the house was only saved by the act of an anonymous man Bob Skaggs referred to as the "Highway Angel." This man saw the fire and ran over to the house

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<sup>6</sup> Eugene Fauntleroy Cordell, *The Medical Annals of Maryland, 1799-1899* (Baltimore, 1903), pp. 348-49. Holland, *Old Homes and Families*, pp. 426-29. The source of the information on the name "Lindan" is not given. *Baltimore Sun*, 13 October 1875, p. 2. U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 6, Howard County, Maryland, 1870. G. M. Hopkins, *Atlas of Howard County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, 1878). Plat JHO 27-26, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>7</sup> U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 6, Howard County, Maryland, 1920. Holland, *Old Homes and Families*, p. 428. "An Invitation from Elmwood Manor School," brochure, n.d., in possession of the author. Peter R. van Dernoort, "Memories of Elmwood Manor," typescript, 16 May 2014. I am indebted to Fred Dorsey for providing these materials to me.

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from Route I-95, grabbed a ladder and a garden hose, climbed to the roof and sprayed the fire, controlling it until the fire department arrived to finish the task. A portion of the roof had to be replaced. The following year the Skaggs removed the new staircase and rebuilt the stairs to approximate the original staircase. They also reconstructed a partition that apparently divided the passage in two. The Barney house was purchased by Susan Betts in 2000 with the purpose of converting it into the Commodore Joshua Barney Bed & Breakfast. A large addition was built on the west, with alterations to the 1946 addition, and it was connected to the south wing. Further alterations to this wing likely resulted, unknowingly, in additional loss of original historic fabric. There also appear to be some changes and additions to the building that are not reflected in the plans for the conversion. The Bed & Breakfast closed in 2013 and the property is now (2014) on the market.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Plat CMP 3961, Maryland State Archives. Connie Ballenger, "Historic House goes through Fire and Water." *Howard County Times*, 7 May 1992, p. 5B. Letter, J. Rodney Little to Jeffrey A. Lees, 22 September 1993.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-41

See footnotes

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 6.7 A  
Acreage of historical setting 300 A  
Quadrangle name Savage

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 42, parcel 429, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site. The property is protected by a Maryland Historical Trust easement.

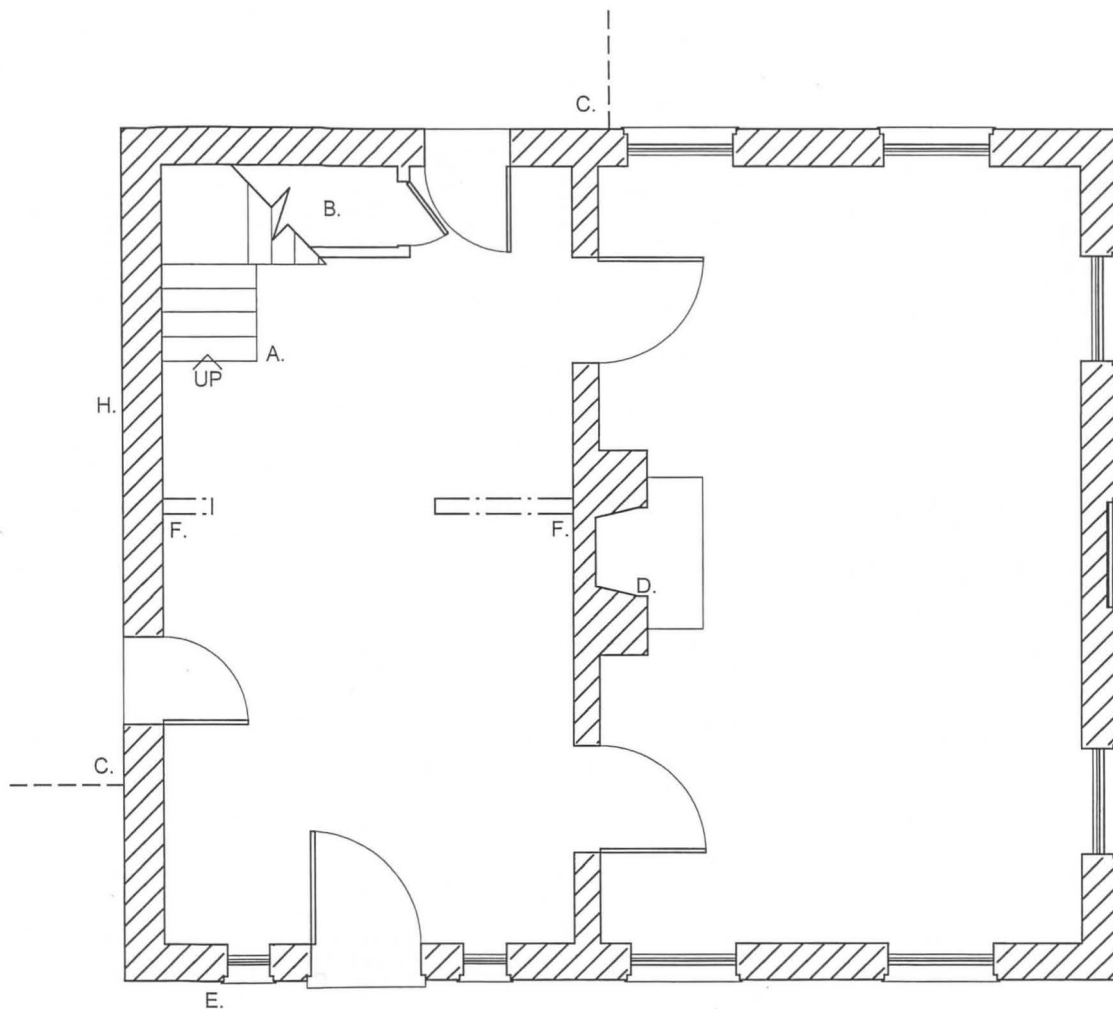
## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	December 2014
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



NOTES:

A. NEWEL, BALUSTERS, AND HANDRAIL REMOVED  
c. 1940s. NEW MATERIALS NOT SHOWN.

B. CELLAR STAIRS REMOVED AND OPENING  
FLOORED OVER.

C. MODERN ADDITIONS NOT SHOWN.

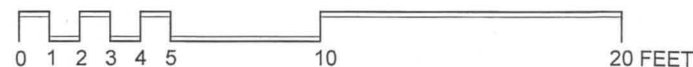
D. FIREBOX REBUILT.

E. SIDELIGHT SASH REPLACED.

F. MODERN PARTITION WALL c. 2000 REPORTEDLY  
RECREATES MISSING EARLIER WALL.

G. MODERN PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL CHASES  
AND RADIATORS NOT SHOWN.

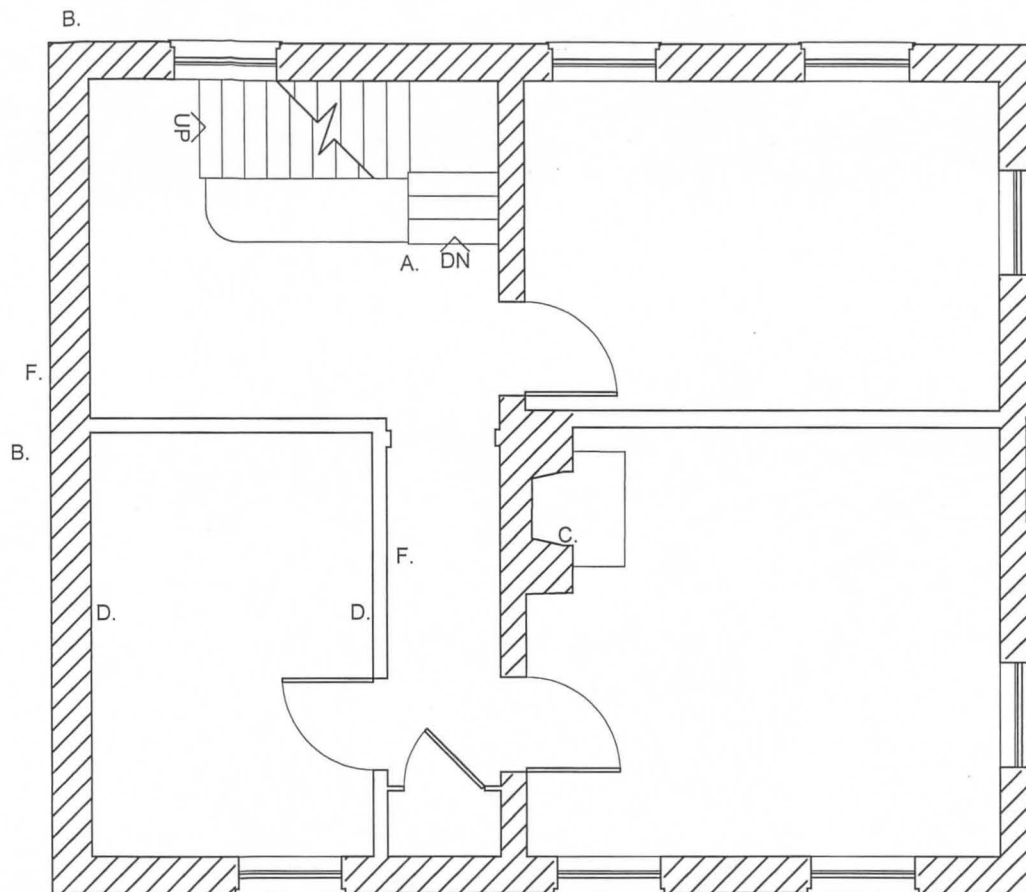
H. LATER DOORWAY NOT SHOWN.



# HO- 41 COMMODORE JOSHUA BARNEY HOUSE 7912 SAVAGE-GUILFORD ROAD

FIRST FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT, BETH BURGESS, & FRED DORSEY -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- DECEMBER 2013





NOTES:

A. NEWEL, BALUSTERS, AND HANDRAIL REMOVED  
c. 1940s. NEW MATERIALS NOT SHOWN.

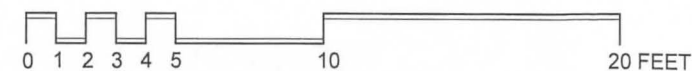
B. MODERN ADDITIONS NOT SHOWN.

C. FIREBOX REBUILT.

D. MODERN PARTITION WALL NOT SHOWN.

E. MODERN PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL CHASES  
AND RADIATORS NOT SHOWN.

F. LATER DOORWAY NOT SHOWN.



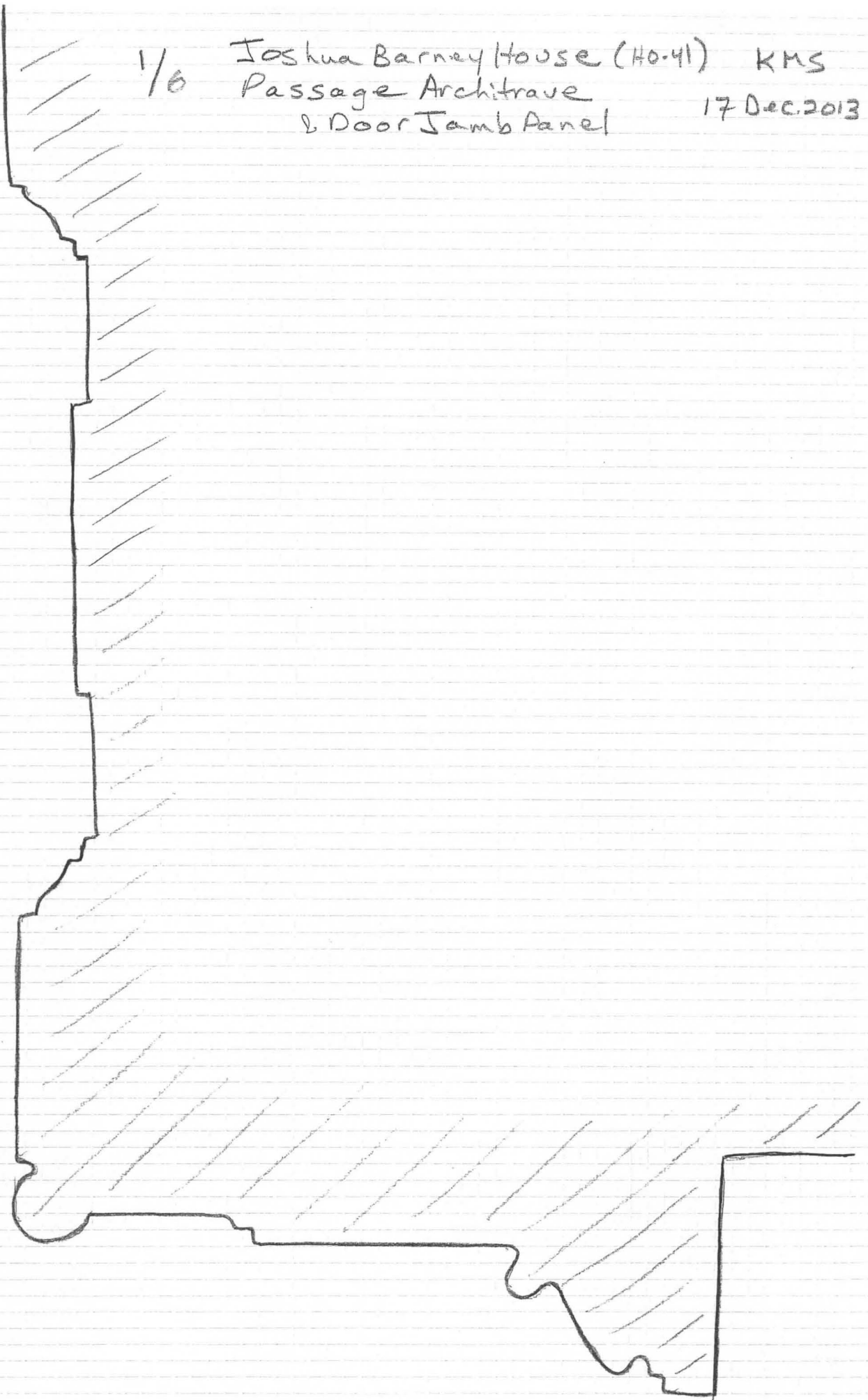
# HO- 41 COMMODORE JOSHUA BARNEY HOUSE 7912 SAVAGE-GUILFORD ROAD

SECOND FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT, BETH BURGESS, & FRED DORSEY -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- DECEMBER 2013

1/6

Joshua Barney House (H0-41) KMS  
Passage Architrave  
& Door Jamb Panel

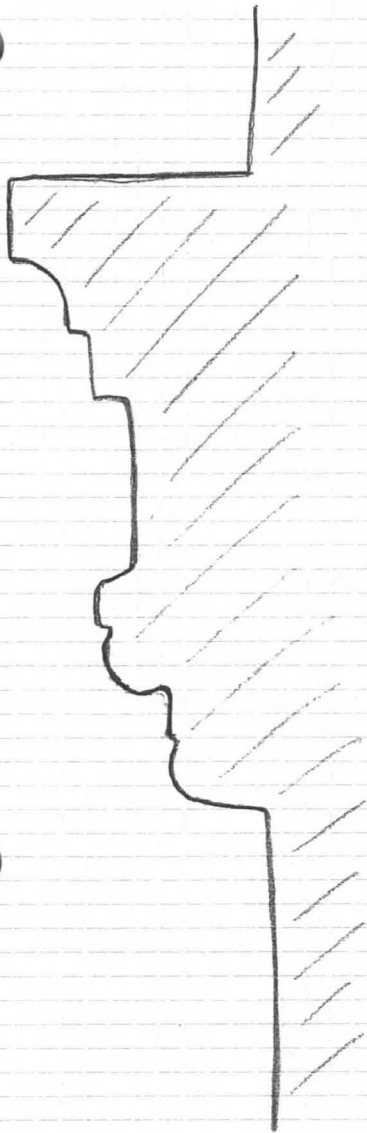
17 Dec 2013





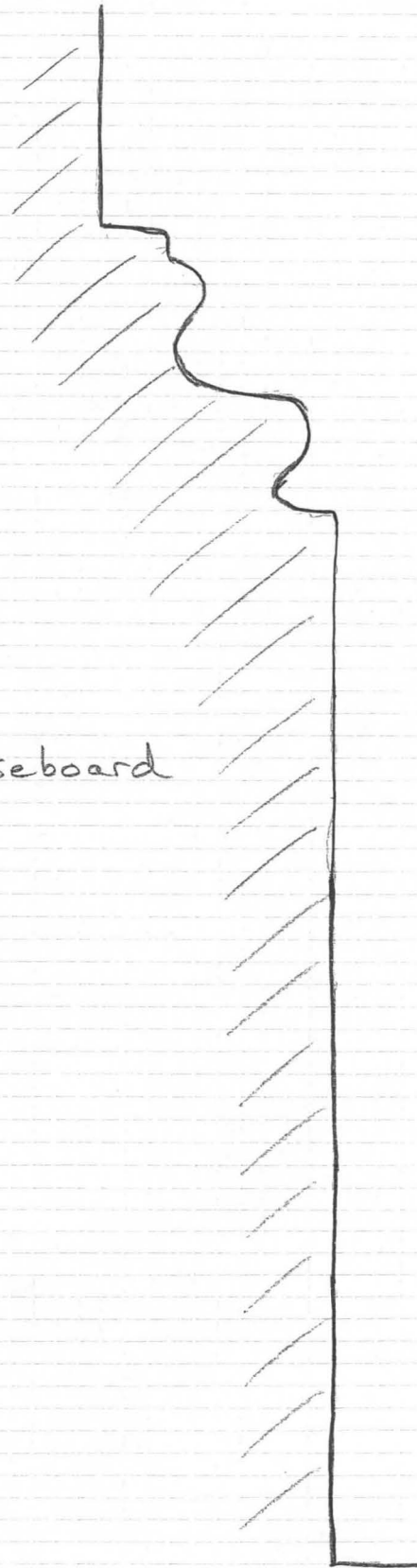
2/6 Joshua Barney House (H0-41)  
N. Room Moulding Profiles

KMS  
17 Dec. 2013

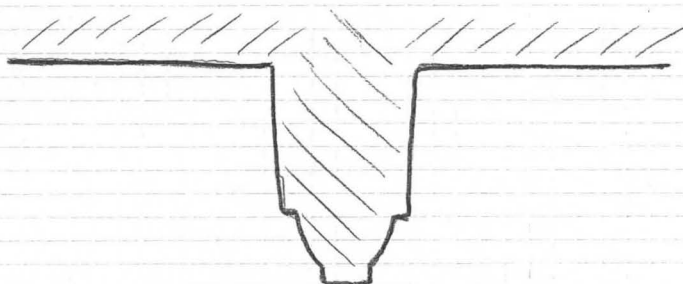


Chair rail

Baseboard



Window  
Muntin



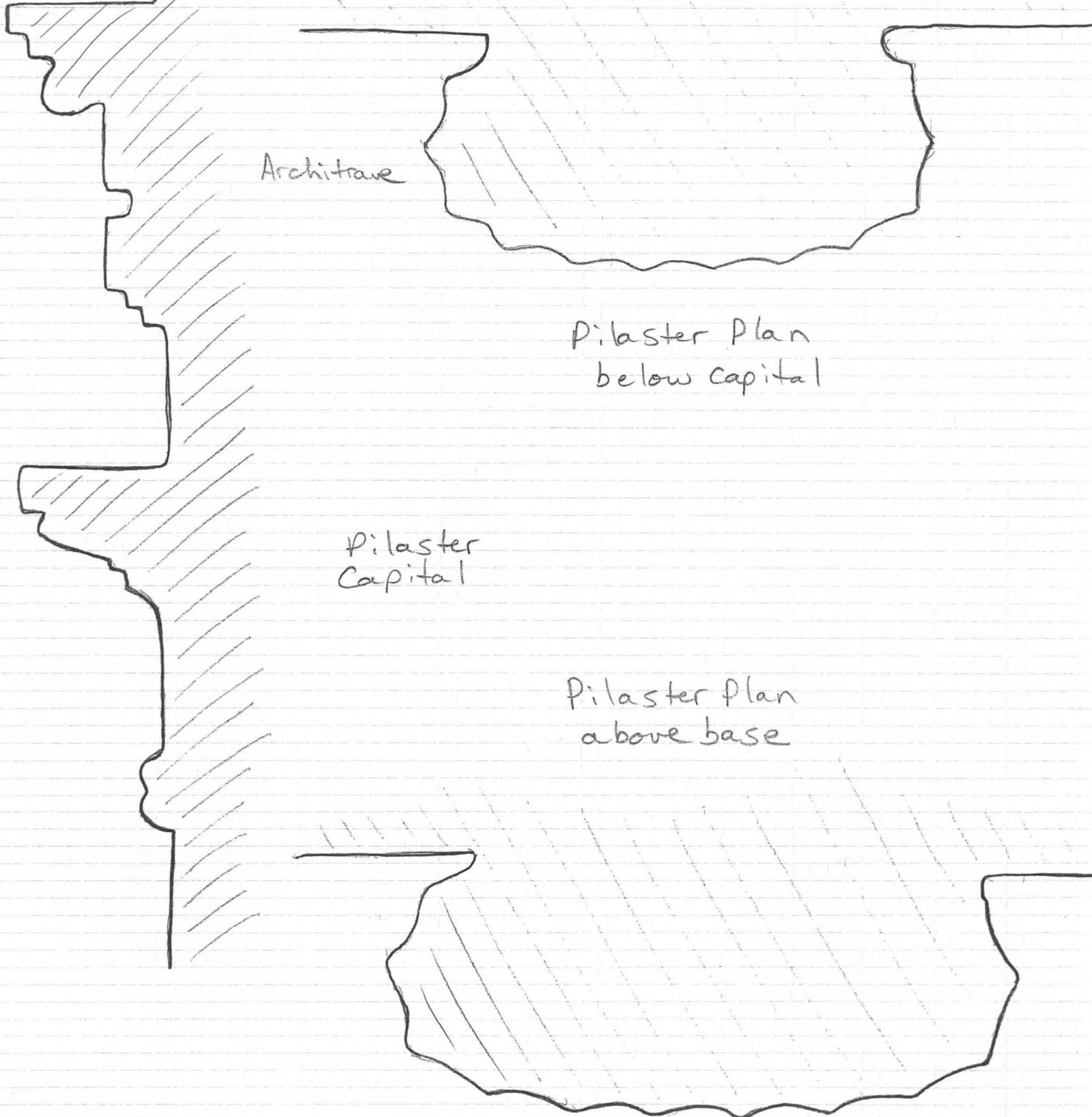
3A/6

Joshua Barney House (HO-41)  
N. Room Mantel Bed Mould

KMS  
17 Dec 2013



3B/6 Joshua Barney House (HO-41) KMS  
N. Room Mantel Mouldings 17 Dec 2013



4/6

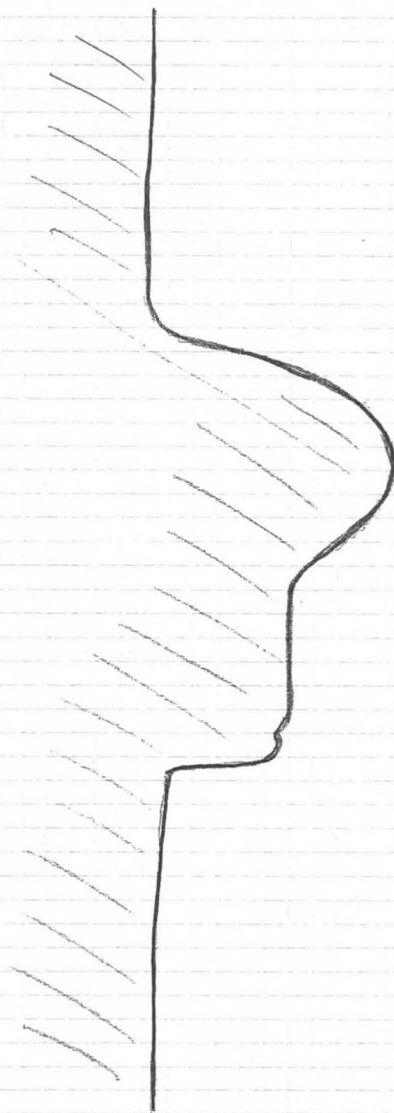
# Joshua Barney House (HO-41) Moulding Profiles

KMS  
17 Dec 2013

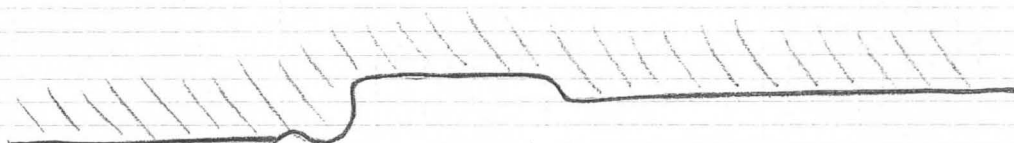


N. Room  
Door  
Panel  
Mould

Stair  
Railing  
on  
Wall

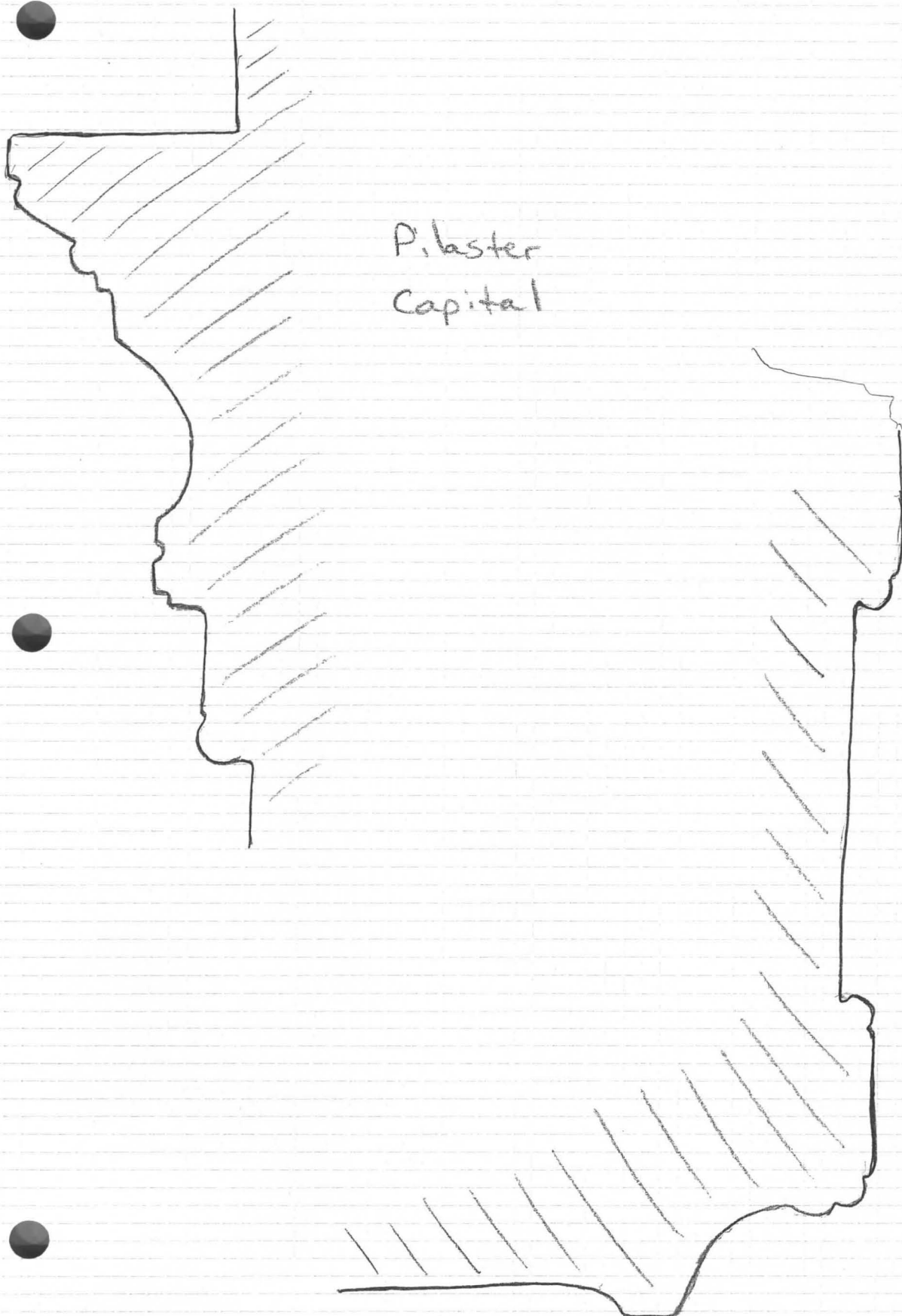


N. Room Window  
Panel Mould



5/6 Joshua Barney House (H0-41)  
Second Story Passage Arch Mouldings

KMS  
17 Dec. 2013

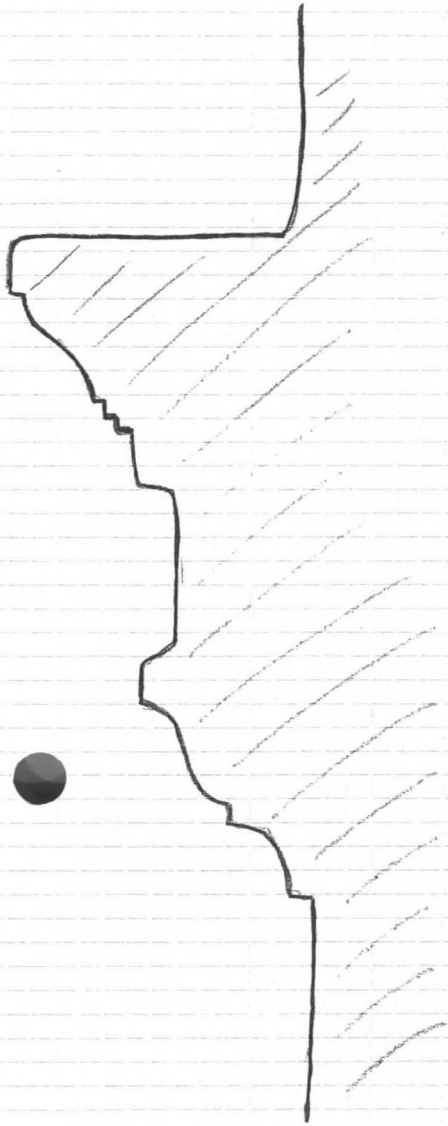


Pilaster  
Capital

Arch Soffit w/ Architrave

6/6 Joshua Barney House (H0-41)

KMS  
20 Dec 2013



Northeast  
Chamber  
Chair rail



Commodore Joshua Barney House (HO-41)  
7912 Savage-Guilford Road  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Bob G. Skaggs & Wava (H/W) /? [Palm Beach, FL]	Susan L. Betts / ?	20 January 2000	MDR 5000-234	Deed – fee simple	\$355,000	?	Lot 1 on plat 3961 Deed of Easement w/ MHT, 1 Dec 1978 CMP 920-229
Marguerite Sewell Cahall / ?	Bob G. & Wava Skaggs / ?	14 February 1975	CMP 711-689	Deed – fee simple	\$10.00	26.105 A - ?	Refers to 2 deeds 171-62 & 171-65
Conrad Vollmerhausen, guardian of Frank Vollmerhauser / Howard	Ralph Stockton Cahall & Marguerite Sewell / Howard	9 June 1941	BM Jr. 171-65	Deed – fee simple	\$400	26.105 A	2/15 interest WEC d. intestate
Mary Jeannette Carr, widow Helen Carr Penny & husb. H. Grafton Henry LeRoy Carr & wf Vera Oursler Louis Edwin Carr & wf Ina Bird Mable Carr Warfield & husb. Thurman R. / Howard	Ralph Stockton Cahall & wf Marguerite Sewell / Howard	9 June 1941	BM Jr. 171-62	Deed – fee simple	\$1.00	26.105 A	13/15 interest WEC d. September 1939
Thomas W. Linthicum, MD. & wf Sarah J. / Howard	William E. Carr / ?	29 March 1909	WWLC 87-111	Deed – fee simple	\$3,000	76-3-18 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> ARP	
Charles H. Stanley J. Malcolm Dorsey, trustees / ?	Thomas W. Linthicum, MD. / Howard	5 January 1901	JHO 73-165	Deed – ?	\$1,000	76-3-18 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> ARP	Equity Ct. decree, 15 Aug. 1900, Susan R. Cronmiller etal v. LePage Cronmiller & wf, etal Sold 25 September 1900 Lot C on plat filed in case

Commodore Joshua Barney House (HO-41)  
7912 Savage-Guilford Road  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

Nathaniel Williams & wf Maria D. / Balto. City	John Cronmiller, formerly of Balto. City, now in Howard Dist.	23 May 1843	JLM 4-234	Deed of Trust Indenture	\$3,466.66 2/3	214 A.	Gen'l Assembly, Dec. 1842 session – Act for benefit of children of John Cronmiller J.C. can sell leasehold property conveyed in trust from their grandfather, Thomas Cronmiller by deed 5 May 1832, A1 221- 187 p/o Harry's Lot
Joseph B. Williams, trustee / Balto. City	Nathaniel Williams / Balto. City	4 April 1843	JLM 4-174	Deed of Conveyance Indenture	\$10 / A. \$2,186.25	218 5/8 A.	MD High Ct. of Chancery decree 10 Nov. 1842, Bank of Balto v. Savage Manuf. Co. Public sale 17 Dec. 1842 Sold by Savage Manuf. Co. to Benjamin Redman – he later surrendered it up to them.
Savage Manufacturing Co. / ?	Nathaniel Williams, attorney / Balto. City	27 October 1832	WSG 17-297	Indenture	\$5.00	218 5/8 A.	Security for endorsing several notes for Savage Manuf. Co. Had been sold to Redman [Redman not found in Index]
Henry Messonier, merchant / Balto. City	Peter Chatard, physician / Balto. City	19 August 1818	WSG 6-166	Indenture	\$8,000	300 A.	Harrys Lott or Henrys Lott



Commodore Joshua Barney House (HO-41)  
7912 Savage-Guilford Road  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

Nathaniel Williams, attorney / Balto. City Joshua Barney & wf Harriot, gentleman / Balto. City	Henry Messonier, merchant / Balto. City	15 April 1818	WSG 5-526	Indenture	\$5.00 to N.W. \$14,000 to J. & H.B.	300 A.	High Ct. of Chancery decree 9 Feb. 1811 – John Brewer, trustee to sell RE of Thos. Coale On a branch of Patuxent River “...and is the same tract of land which was lately built upon & improved and occupied by the said Joshua Barney and Harriot his wife as their residence....”
Joshua Barney / Balto. Co.	Nathaniel Williams / Balto. Co.	7 July 1812	Ct. of Appeals Land Records West. Shore JG 7-576	Indenture in Trust	?	300 A	For the use of Harriot Barney, wf of Joshua
John Brewer / Annapolis	Nathaniel Williams / Balto. City	4 August 1812	JG 7-578	Indenture in Trust	\$2,250	300 A	Chancery Ct. decree 9 Feb. 1811 – Brewer made trustee to sell land of Thos. Coale Sold to Joshua Barney 18 March 1811 Harrys Lott ratified 25 July 1811 Barney requested this deed be made Alfred Coale & Ann Marla Coale are also heirs of Thomas For use of Harriot Barney
John Brewer	Joshua Barney	11 March 1811	Not in AA Co Index		\$7.50 / A \$2,250	300 A	High Ct. of Chancery decree - Dwelling plantation of Thomas Cole noted in JG 7-576

Commodore Joshua Barney House (HO-41)  
7912 Savage-Guilford Road

**CHAIN OF TITLE**

Charles Greenbury Ridgely Jr. Sarah Ridgely son & widow of Charles Greenbury Ridgely / AA	Thomas Coale / AA	5 August 1789	NH 4-354	Indenture	£ 1,050	300 A	Harrys Lott aka Henrys Lott
---	-------------------	---------------	-------------	-----------	---------	-------	--------------------------------

HO-41  
Commodore Joshua Barney House  
7912 Savage-Guilford Road  
Howard County, Maryland  
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera  
Epson Ultra Premium Photo Paper Glossy  
Epson Matte Black UltraChrome ink cartridge

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_01  
Exterior, east elevation

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_09  
Interior, east chamber, vw. south

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_02  
Exterior, north & west elevations

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_10  
Interior, east chamber mantel

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_03  
Exterior, west & south elevations

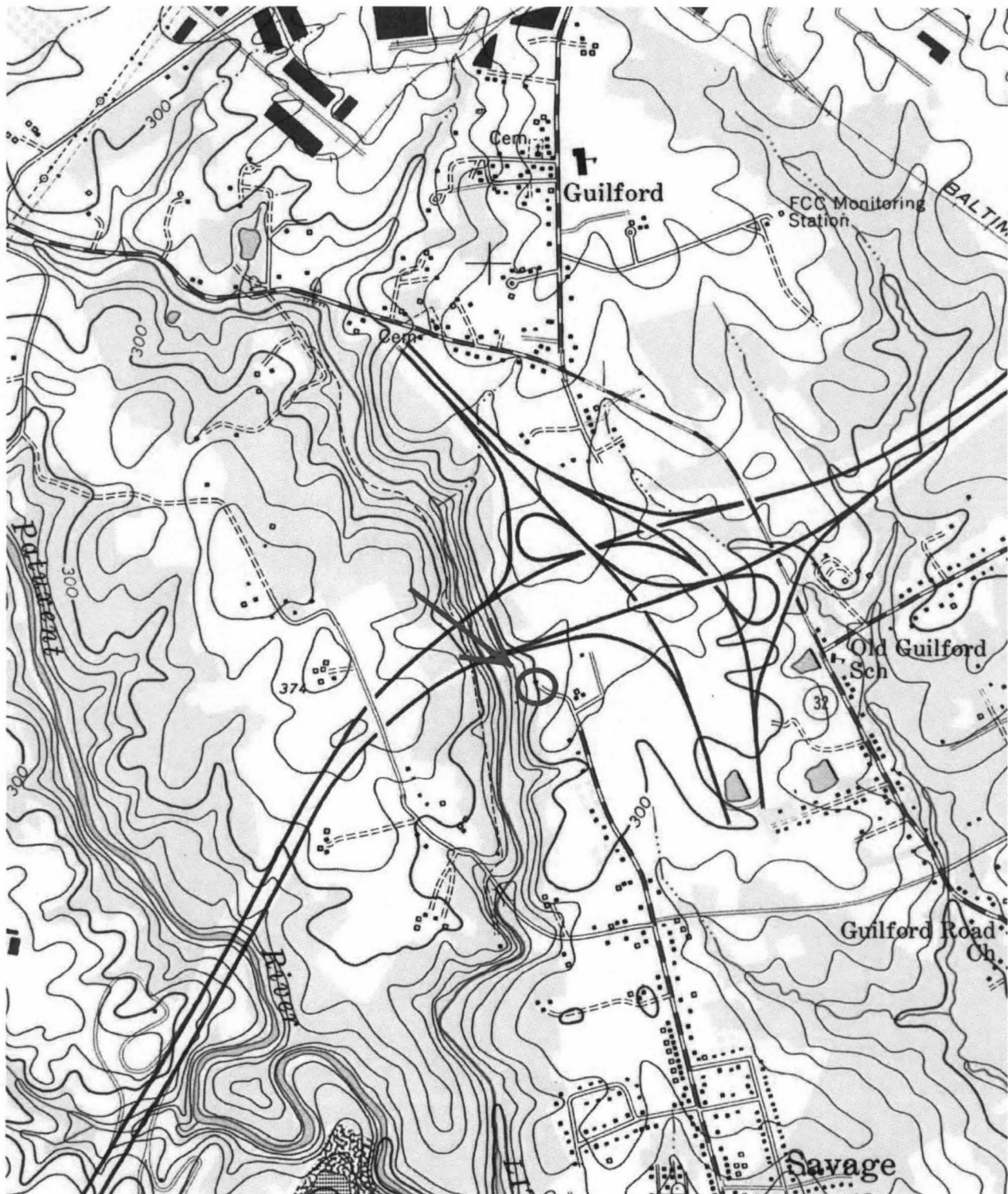
HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_04  
Interior, passage, vw. southwest

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_05  
Interior, north room, vw. southeast

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_06  
Interior, north room mantel detail.

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_07  
Interior, second story passage, vw. northeast

HO-0041\_2013-12-17\_08  
Interior, second story passage arch detail.



HO-41  
The Commodore Joshua Barney House  
7912 Savage-Guilford Road  
Savage quad



HO-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Exterior, east elevation

1 of 10





HO-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Exterior, north + west elevations

2 of 10



H0-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Exterior, west & south elevations

3 of 10



HO-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPD

Interior, passage, vw. southwest

4 of 10



H0-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Interior, north room, vw, Southeast

5 of 10





H0-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Interior, north room mantel detail

6 of 10



HO-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPD

Interior, second story passage,

vw. northeast

7 of 10



H0-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Interior, second story passage  
arch detail

8 of 10





H0-41

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Interior, east chamber, vw. South

9 of 10



HO-HI

Commodore Joshua Barney House

7912 Savage-Guilford Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Stort

2013-12-17

MD SHPO

Interior, east chamber mantel

10 of 10

Easement

1400415204

Ho-41  
District #6

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Joshua Barney House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Harry's Lott				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 7912 Savage-Guilford Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Savage				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Howard		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<b>OWNERSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public    Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<b>STATUS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Mr & Mrs. Bob Skaggs				
STREET AND NUMBER: 7912 Savage-Guilford Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Savage		STATE: Maryland		20863
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records				
STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Courthouse				
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City		STATE: Maryland		21043
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Tax Map 42, 10.174				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b> Acres more or less (711-689) p. 90				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Md. Historical Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis		STATE: Maryland		21401

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>(Check One)  <input type="checkbox"/> Altered    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncolored </div> <div>(Check One)  <input type="checkbox"/> Moved    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
<p>DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE</p> <p>Built by the Ridgelys of Howard County circa 1760, the Joshua Barney House is situated at a sharp turn of the Guilford - Savage Road west of Route 1.</p> <p>The tent roof of this finely proportioned two and a half story brick house lends it a peculiar charm. The central brick chimney and the 1941 additions of a round arched dormer window on the west and south elevations further enhance the profile of the roof outline.</p> <p>The house is three bays wide and three deep, is two and ½ stories on the front and sides and two stories high on the rear, where a basement and school room was added in the 1940's when the house was used as an academy for boys. The ground falls away on the north wall where this hipped roof addition has been made.</p> <p>The walls are constructed of brick (laid in English garden wall bond) with a decorative header brick course separating the 1st and second stories of the south elevation. The building's simple appearance is broken by the decorative brick work that includes the use of splayed brick flat-arched lintels on the first floor double-hung windows, south entrance door and vertical side lites, and stretcher brick flat arched lintels on the second floor and basement windows.</p> <p>Upper and lower windows are vertically aligned within the walls. All windows have double-hung sashes with six-over-six lites. Small basement windows are found in the east &amp; north facades of the original structure. Entrances are located in the 1st bay on both the front facade of the original structure and the west side facade of the west addition or dining room.</p> <p>The original south front door is surmounted by a rectangular transom with inset fan lite and flanked by two vertically aligned windows inset into the south wall holding four vertical lites covered with diamond patterned decorative wrought iron grates. The old house had a front porch and frame west wing which has been replaced by a two bay-wide, one bay deep, two story, hipped roof, frame addition on the west. Flat sky lites were once located where the present full arched dormer windows are placed. A french door entrance with 10-10 lites flanked by five vertical lites is located on the west facade of this addition. A double hung window with six-over-six lites and shutters lies above. A flag stone patio lies in front of this door with wrought iron railing and stone steps leading down to a path which runs down along the west side of a two story shed roofed frame addition lying on the north wall of the dining room addition and holding the kitchen which is located on a slope.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☒ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Mid 1700's

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |   |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | losophy                                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | itarian                                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Joshua Barney House lies in both its history and its architecture.

Built by the Ridgelys of Howard County, and located on Harry's Lott, the house may well date from the mid seventeen hundreds. Colonel Henry Ridgely in his 1749 will, bequeathed 700 acres of Harry's Lott to his son Charles Greenberry Ridgely, Sr. On August 5, 1789 Charles G. Ridgely, Jr. and Sarah, his mother, sold to Thomas Coale approximately 300 acres of Harry's Lott "containing the dwelling plantation" (NH 4-354, Anne Arundel County) for the sum of 351 pounds.

In the 1797 will of Thomas Coale there is a reference to 22½ acres of Harry's Lott containing the dwelling plantation. From 1789-1811 a Mr. Nathan had been trying to collect money loaned to Mr. Coale. In a court case against Thomas Coale's children, Alfred, Maria and Harriet, (second wife of Joshua Barney whom he married in 1809) the house went up to the highest bidder. Joshua bid for it and made the deal. In chancery papers in the Records of Anne Arundel County, the trustee gives an explanation to the Chancellor of why he sold it to Barney, husband of Harriet.

On February 18, 1811 Joshua Barney sold 300 acres. Families often inherit very little when the property has liens upon it for payment of just debts. Joshua Barney paid \$2250 or \$7½ an acre but evidently borrowed the money from a Nathaniel Williams with whom he had dealings. In 1818, the record gets sketchy. Somewhere there was a transference of land to the Savage Manufacturing Company through whom it was acquired by Nathaniel Williams on October 27, 1832 (17-297) Ann Arundel County Record's Office with 218 acres.

Nathaniel Williams sold the property to John Cronmiller on May 23, 1843, with approximately 214 acres of Harry's Lott.

Nathaniel Williams was one of several Williams brothers who were involved in the Savage Manufacturing Company in the early 1830's, which owned a great deal of acreage in the area. During the 1840's, the Company ran into difficulties and had to sell property. The Baltimore American ran three successive advertisements of the sale of "the former home of Joshua Barney". Mr. Cronmiller's father left him money to buy a farm in Howard County for his grandchildren. John Cronmiller thus acquired the property for this purpose. (4-234, Record's Office, Howard District of Ann Arundel County).

In 1900 we find litigation involving the Cronmiller heirs and on January 5, 1901 a sale of approximately 76 acres, designated at Lot C on a survey plat, to T.W. Linthicum. (73-165) Howard County Land Office. The survey plan found in the Cronmiller case is of interest as it refers to

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Interview with Mr. Robert Skaggs of Joshua Barney House, September 22, 1976.  
 Holland, Celia M. Landmarks of Howard County, Maryland, University Park, 1975.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Please see Tax Map 42

10.174 Acres more or less (711-689) p.90

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist		
ORGANIZATION Office of Planning & Zoning, Comprehensive Planning		DATE
STREET AND NUMBER: 3450 Court House Drive		
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City	STATE Maryland	21043

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## Joshua Barney House - Description (Continued)

The stone pathway continues down to the west entrance of the hipped roof two story north wing built in the 1940's which nestles into the slope along the north wall of the original building.

A rectangular west entrance is located in the first bay and is covered by a gabled roof. Two large rectangular second floor double-hung windows with six-over-six lites lie in its west wall with a smaller double-hung window with six-over-six lites lying in the south bay.

Two first floor rectangular windows with six-over-six lites lie south of the west entrance door.

The north facade of the original structure holds three second floor double-hung windows with six-over-six lites. The first and second east bay windows have green shutters while the hipped roof line lies too close to the west bay window to allow shutters.

The north wall of the addition holds two first and second floor double-hung windows. A gabled closed dormer window sits on the east side of the hipped roof north wing.

The east facade of the original structure holds a fan lite inset into an intersecting gable whose east wall lies flush with the eastwall of the house. A full arched stretcher brick lintel, decorates the fanlite. The middle bay windows are no longer open but bricked in. On the second floor a wall starting from the middle of this window now separates the two upstairs bedrooms.

In plan, the building has an entrance hall on the west bay with living room on the east. It is believed by the present owner that the original building plan was a central hall with living room to the right and dining room to the left. The plan was never fully executed. Madison House in Brookville off Route 97 in Montgomery County is an example of what the present house would have looked like when completed.

## Joshua Barney House - Significance

(Continued)

Harry's Lott, originally Ridgely's Forest.

On March 29, 1909 Thomas W. and Sarah J. Linthicum sold the property to William E. Carr with 76 acres (87-111) Howard County Land Office.

M. J. Carr and heirs sold 13/15 of approximately 26 acres to Ralph and Mrs. Cahall on June 9, 1941 (171-62) Howard County Record's Office. The first plumbing, heat, electricity and hot running water occurred during the ownership of Mr. & Mrs. Cahall. They called the house Elmwood Manor and used the building as a residence and academy for boys. They are also responsible for the square frame two story high west wing which replaces an older frame addition used for the kitchen, and a frame north wing which pushes out and down the slope of the north wall. Both feature hipped roofs and double-hung windows with six-over-six lites.

We find through the deeds and wills that this home of Commodore Barney was built by the Ridgely's of Howard County in the mid 1700's, on a tract of land called Harry's Lott.

Commodore Barney was the hero of two wars and retired to his home in Elkridge after his marriage to Harriet Coale in 1809. Captured three times in the Revolution, he was exchanged once and escaped twice. In the War of 1812 he again volunteered and with his forces stood between the British and the nation's Capital at the Battle of Bladensburg. He retired again to Elkridge in 1815 after 41 years in the navy but three years later decided to move to Kentucky. Enroute he became ill and died on December 1, 1818.

The original structure, three bays wide, three bays deep, two and a half stories high with central chimney is notable architecturally. Its tent roof features an intersecting east gable lying flush with the east wall and round arched dormer windows on the south and west roof elevations.

Another notable architectural feature is the decorative brick work found in the first floor splayed brick flat arched lintels, the south wall English garden wall brick bond and the decorative brick course separating the first and second floors of the south facade.

A west bay rectangular south entrance and transom enclosing a fan light is flanked by narrow vertically aligned windows inset into the south wall covered with diamond patterned decorative wrought iron grates.

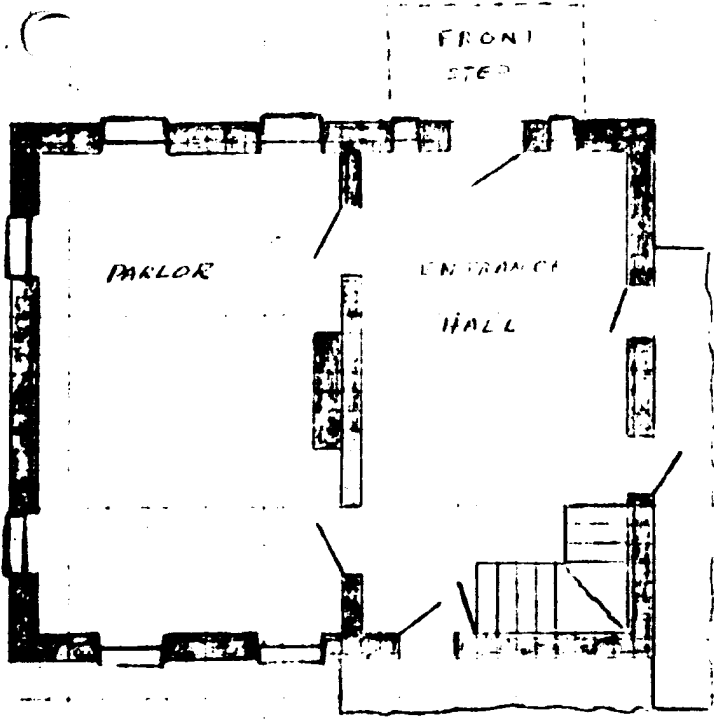
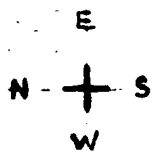
The interior has interesting woodwork and floors of random width 2-4" to 6" wide. A spiral stairway was taken out during the late fifties or early sixties when it became a rental unit with one room apartments.

On February 14, 1975, Bob G. and Wava Skaggs acquired the house along with approximately 10.174 acres more or less. (711-689-Howard County Land Office) from Mrs. Cahall, and are in the process of restoring it.

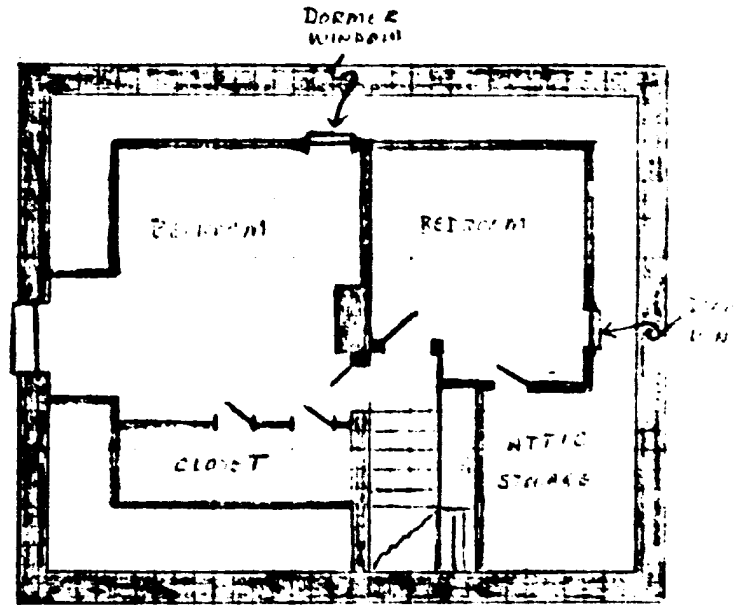
Associated with a national naval hero of the calibre of Commodore Barney and presenting the unique architectural features outlined, this house is of national as well as state-local interest.

Its proximity to I-95 and the new Murray Hill Park along the Little Patuxent north of the house, has already taken or is in the process of taking acreage. Neither of these projects have affected the integrity of the site.

This has been most fortunate. The house, however, should be protected against any future encroachment and placed on the national register of historic places.

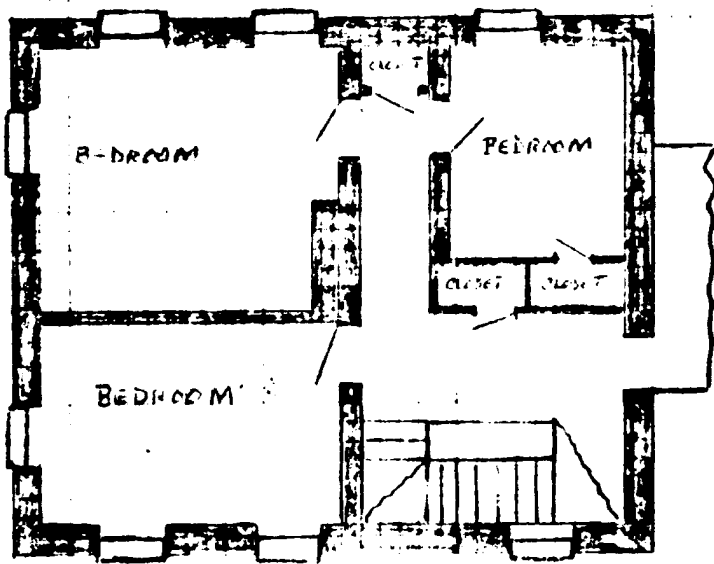


FIRST FLOOR

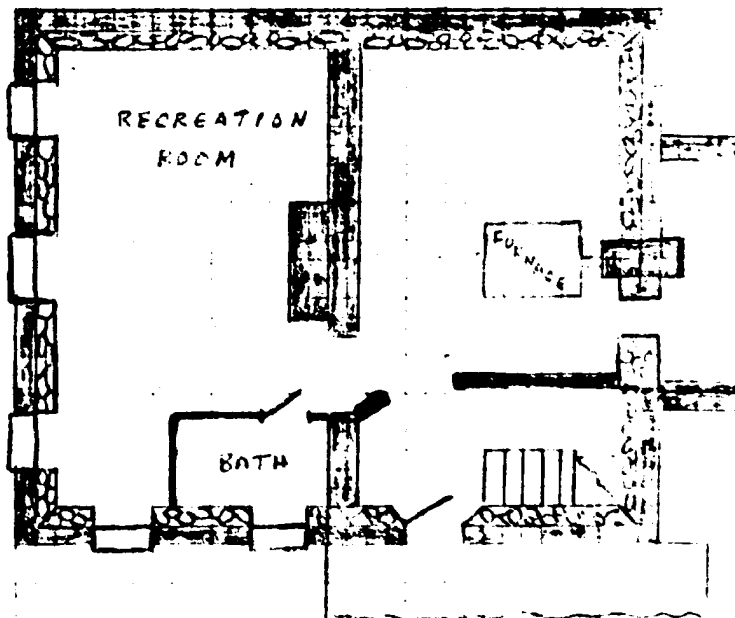


2 1/2 STORY LEVEL

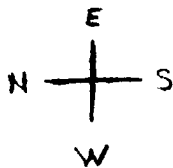
ORIGINAL SECTION



SECOND FLOOR



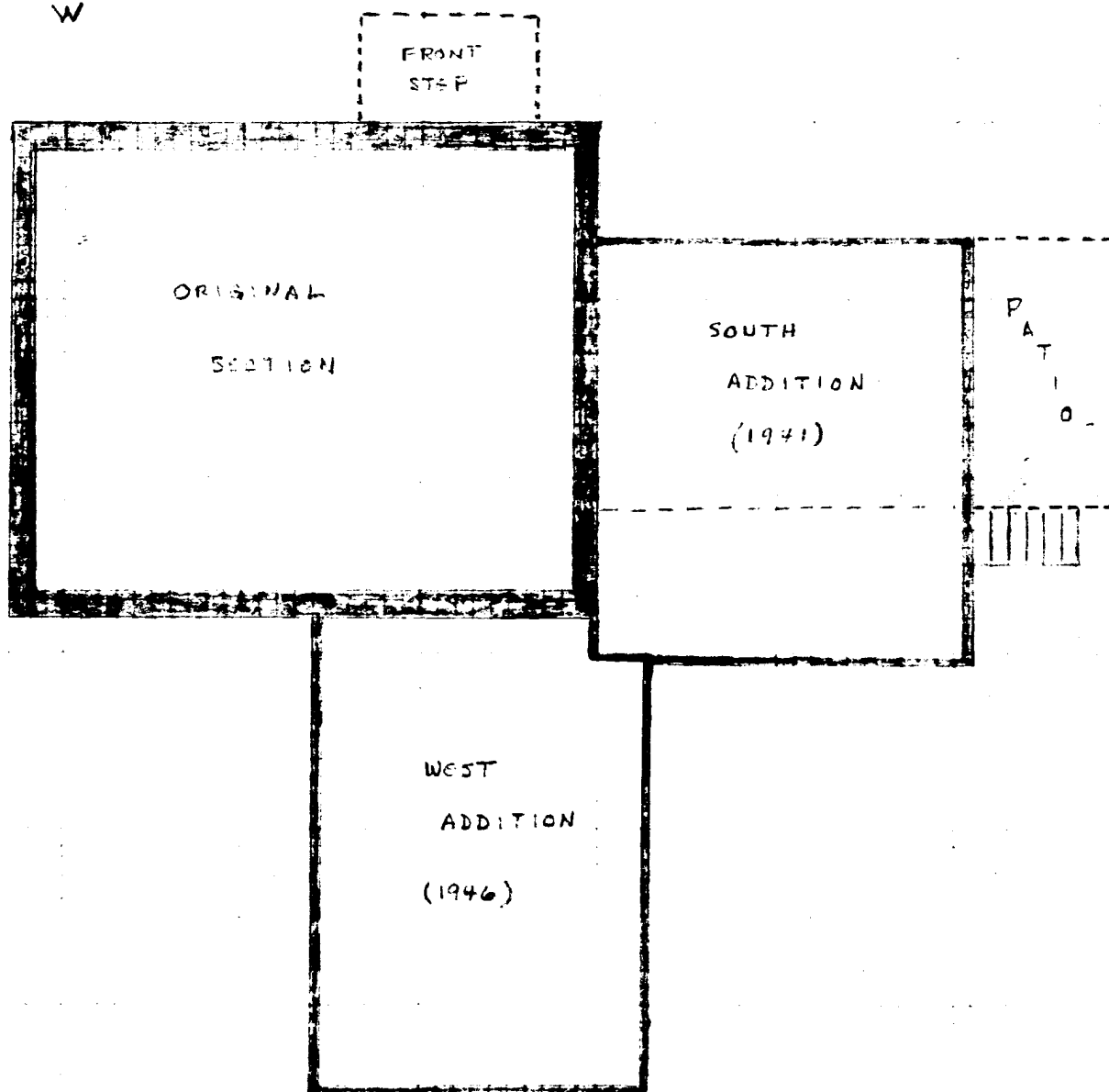
CELLAR



COMMODORE BARNEY HOLL

HO-41

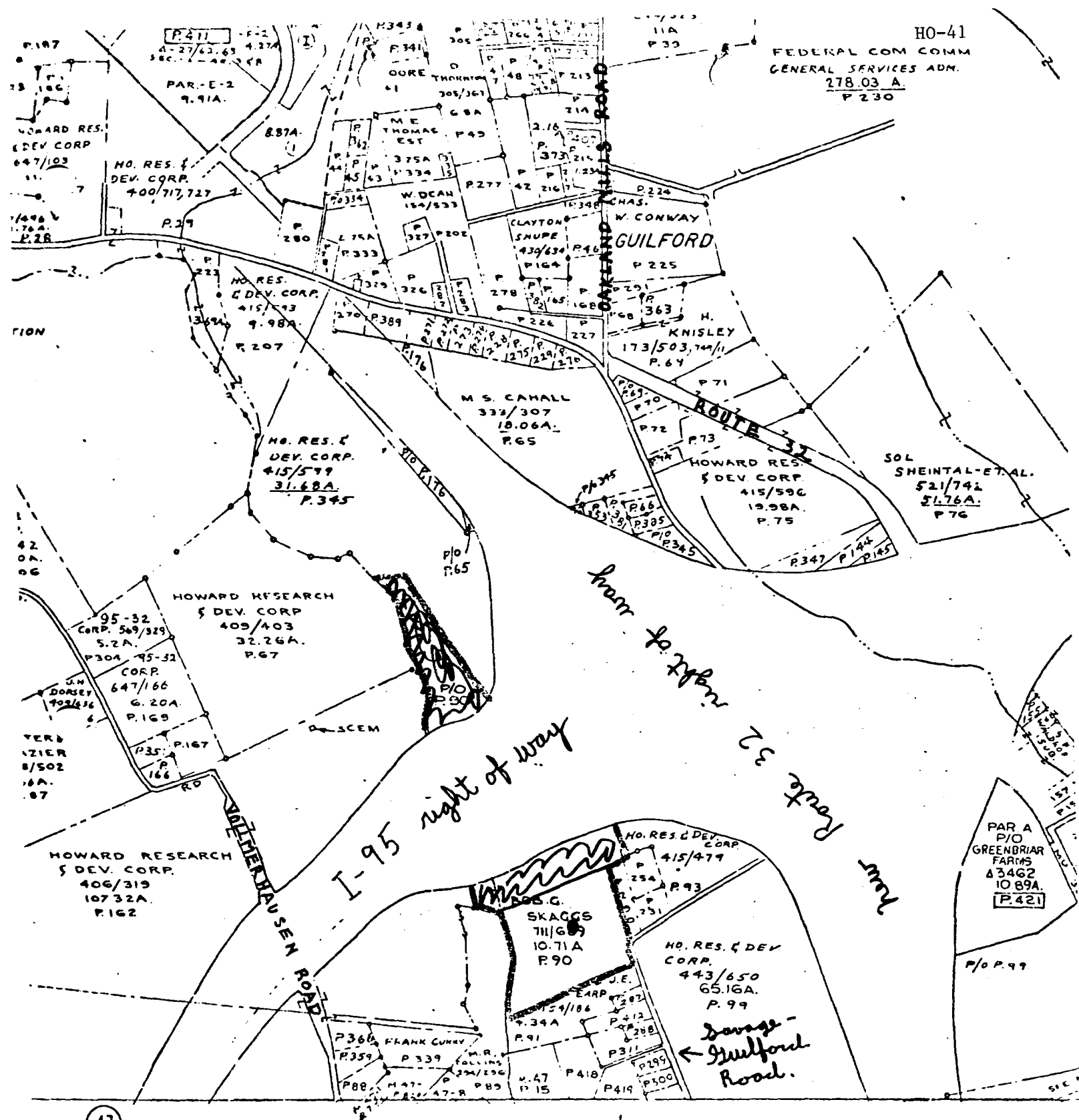
SAVAGE, MARYLAND



SCALE: 1"  $\approx$  10'

APRIL 5, 1977

BLE



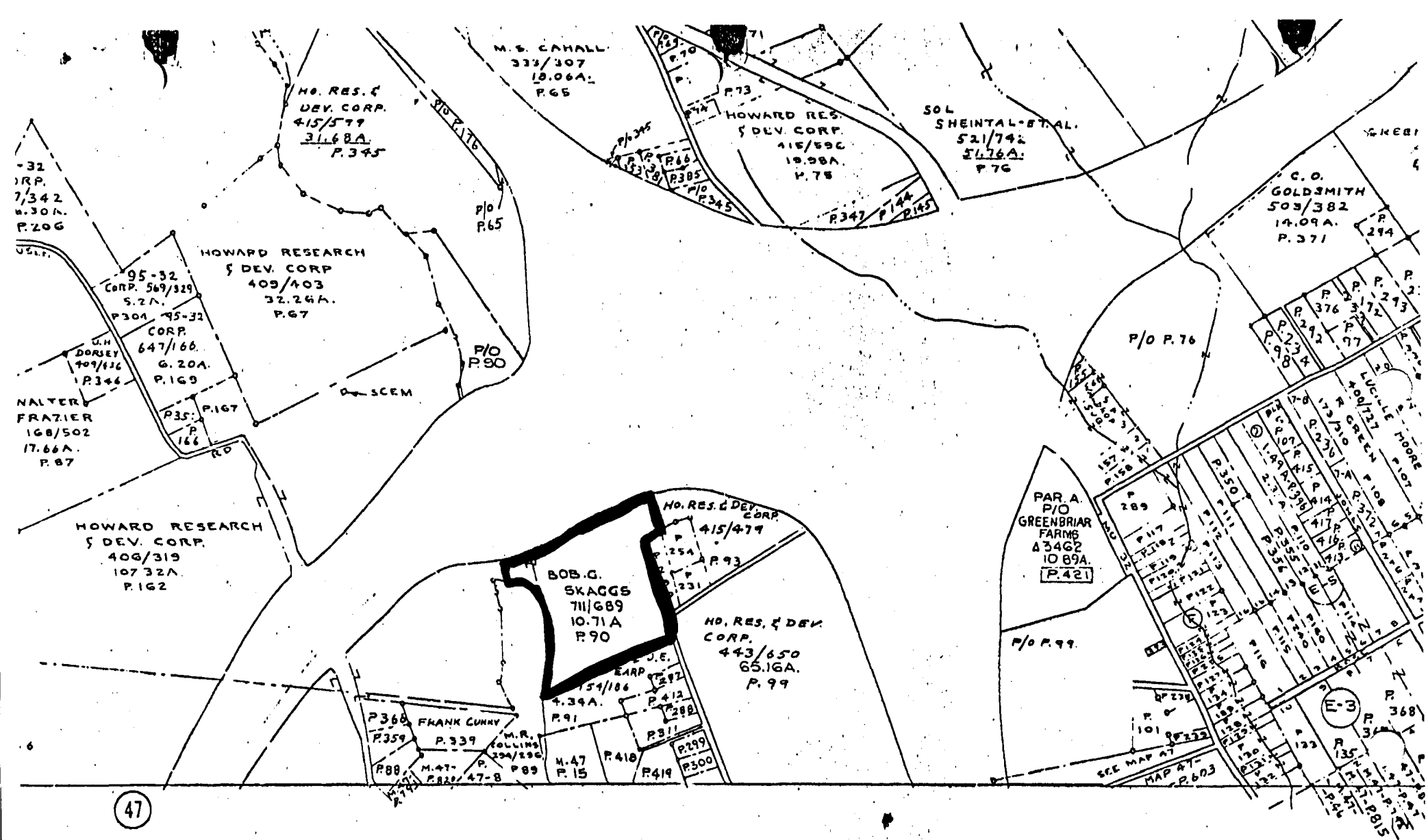
18/341 740/4335340

SCALE  
1" = 800'

2F-173

AD DIVISION-1967  
ASSESS & TAX

HOWARD COUNTY



T-MAP DIVISION-1967  
OF ASSESS & TAX

HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

Joshua Barney House  
HO-41  
Tax Map #42



J. BARNEY House

Ho. Co. - 41





1945. C

21 E

Jan. 1945.

*Joshua Barney, Youthful Commodore*



HO-41



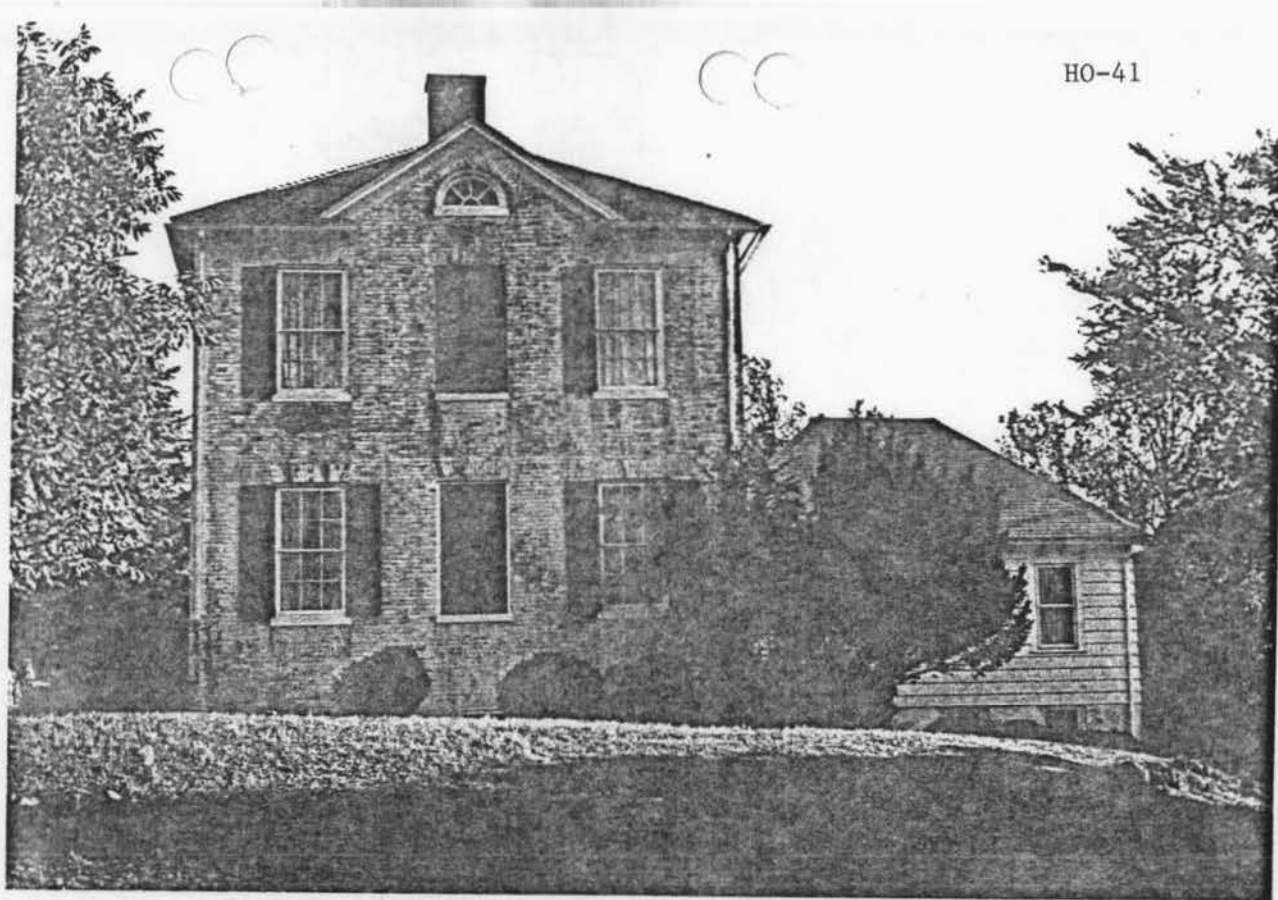
Ho 41



4420

Ho M. 72

Jack - Banner: Elmwood Manor







Commodore Joshua Barney House  
Howard County, Maryland

entrance hall,  
east end

Ho-41

Hamilton Hains, jr.      spring 1977



HO-41 Joshua BARNEY House

North wall  
entrance hall



Commodore Joshua Barney House  
Howard County, Maryland

South Wall  
parlor

HO-41

Hamilton Hains, Jr. Spring 1977



H0-41 Joshua BARNEY House





H0-41 Joshua BARNEY HOUSE



HO-41 Joshua BARNEY House



H0-41 JOSHUA BARNEY HOUSE



Ho-41 Joshua BARNEY House





HO-41 Joshua BARNEY House



HO-41 Joshua BARNEY House



H0-41 Joshua BARNEY House



H0-41 Joshua BARNEY House





HO-41 Joshua BARNEY House



H0-41 Joshua BARNEY House



HO-41 Joshua BARNEY House

